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JAMES THACHER, M.D.







AMERICAN  
**MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY:**  
OR *Mony*  
**MEMOIRS OF EMINENT PHYSICIANS**  
WHO HAVE  
**Flourished in America.**

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED  
A  
**SUCCINCT HISTORY**  
OF  
**MEDICAL SCIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES,**  
FROM THE  
**FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTRY.**

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BY JAMES THACHER, M.D.

Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences ; Honorary Member of the New-York Historical Society, and of the New-York Horticultural Society, &c. ; Author of the American New Dispensary, of the Modern Practice of Physic, and of the Military Journal.

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**TWO VOLUMES IN ONE.**

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**VOL. I.**

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"Thou shalt lie down  
With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,  
The powerful of the earth—the wise, the good,  
Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,  
All in one mighty sepulchre." **BRYANT.**

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**BOSTON:**  
**RICHARDSON & LORD AND COTTONS & BARNARD.**

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1828.

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*District of Massachusetts—to wit :*

DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE.

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, That on the thirteenth day of February, A.D. 1828, in the fifty-second year of the Independence of the United States of America, **RICHARDSON & LORD** and **COTTONS & BARNARD** of the said District have deposited in this Office the Title of a Book the Right whereof they claim as Proprietors, in the words following, to wit :

“ American Medical Biography : or Memoirs of Eminent Physicians who have flourished in America. To which is prefixed a Succinct History of Medical Science in the United States, from the first settlement of the Country. By James Thacher, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences ; Honorary Member of the New-York Historical Society, and of the New-York Horticultural Society, &c. ; Author of the American New Dispensatory, of the Modern Practice of Physic, and of the Military Journal. Two volumes in one.

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In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled “ An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by securing the Copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such Copies, during the times therein mentioned :” and also to an Act entitled “ An Act supplementary to an Act, entitled, An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by securing the Copies of Maps, Charts and Books to the Authors and Proprietors of such Copies during the times therein mentioned ; and extending the Benefits thereof to the Arts of Designing, Engraving and Etching Historical and other Prints.”

**JOHN W. DAVIS,**  
*Clerk of the District of Massachusetts.*

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EDWARD AUGUSTUS HOLYOKE, M.D. A.A.S. et LL.D.

VENERABLE SIR,

The following work solicits the sanction of the oldest physician in the United States, and perhaps in the world—the first President of the Massachusetts Medical Society ; whose public virtues and amiable qualities have procured the respect and love of his fellow citizens, and the applause of all. In you we recognise the singular phenomenon of a life comprising nearly a century, and yet not ceasing to be useful as a zealous advocate in the great cause of benevolence and philanthropy.\* It is your peculiar felicity, Sir, by favor of Divine Providence, to have escaped the perils both physical and moral of a patriarchal life, and to experience the happy fruits of a sacred devotion to the purest principles of Christian morality and piety.

In this volume will be brought to your recollection some distinguished names which you have held in estimation as your predecessors, many who have been your contemporaries and associates, who have gone before you to inherit the promises, and not a few whose memory you cherish for virtues imbibed from your lessons of instruction and who have gloried in the opportunity of imitating your example. That you may long continue the living chronicle of the times, an ornament to the profession, and honored and beloved as the medical Nestor of America, is the ardent desire and prayer of

your very obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR.

*Plymouth, Mass.  
Jan. 1, 1828.*

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\* Dr. Holyoke will complete his hundredth year on the 12th day of August, 1828.



## PREFACE.

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IT is a delightful employment to portray the varied shades of the human character as exhibited on the great theatre of the world ; to contemplate in what manner men have lived, and how they have died ; and bring into view those principles and motives of action, and that combination of means, by which some men arrive at the highest eminence in honorable attainments, while others readily yield to moral and physical imperfections, and leave behind them a blemished reputation. Death triumphs over the frail nature of man ; all must bow to its awful summons, and quit this earthly tabernacle ; the last remains of mortality are consigned to the silent tomb, to mingle with the parent dust. It is not our gift to trace the condition of the spirit ; but shall the recollection of the most splendid and noble achievements of a meritorious life be consigned to irremediable oblivion ? shall the brightest examples of piety, of patriotism and philanthropy be lost to posterity ? No, —it is the attribute of biography to animate the aspiring youth to contemplate and admire the virtues, and learn to imitate the noble actions of their ancestors. The pen of the biographer is a pledge also to those who are still on their probationary course, that the memory of such as are eminently signalized by extraordinary virtues and splendid deeds, shall be recorded and transmitted for the applause and imitation of the rising generation.

Biography and history are closely allied, and our own illustrious ancestors afford excellent and abundant scope for the pen consecrated to this interesting species of literature. No profession, perhaps, is more rich in this department than the medical, and in none can it be applied with deeper interest or greater utility. It has been the constant solicitude of the author of the present work to collate from the purest sources such materials as would

enable him to compile a biography, not of indiscriminate eulogy, but of the strictest impartiality and justice ; and to this rule he has adhered with laborious fidelity. In memoirs regulated by the legitimate laws of truth and justice, simple facts will ever be found the best eulogy ; nor is the author conscious of undue exaggeration or improper concealment in any instance.

The public are now presented with an assemblage of meritorious medical and political characters, which would reflect honor on any country, many of whom participated, in the perils of the field or in the cabinet, in the achievement of our national independence and for the advancement and support of our constitutions of government. Models may here be selected worthy of imitation by the physician, the christian, the patriot and philanthropist. Such is the nature of this undertaking that considerable assistance has been found requisite for its accomplishment ; and it would be a mark of ingratitude not to acknowledge most respectfully the kind and liberal aid received, especially from Professors Hosack and Francis of New-York, Dr. James Mease of Philadelphia, and the Rev. Samuel Miller, D.D. Professor in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey. To the Rev. Dr. McVickar, Professor in Columbia College, the public are indebted for his excellent life of the venerable Dr. Samuel Bard ; and to Drs. Thomas Miner and Samuel B. Woodward of Connecticut, for their liberal contributions. The venerable W. N. Boylston, Esq. and Dr. George C. Shattuck of Boston, have shown a kind interest in this undertaking, and afforded a liberal encouragement, which demands the author's sincere acknowledgments. Other gentlemen who have been pleased to furnish materials and to manifest an interest in the work, will please to accept the grateful thanks of the author.

Materials for this work have been so abundantly accumulated that the author has been obliged to suppress some memoirs, and to retrench others, lest the volume should be augmented to an unwieldy size, and the price too much enhanced ; whether the selection has been the most judicious, and the style of execution the most commendable, are submitted to the candid decision of the public.

*Plymouth, Mass. Jan. 1, 1823.*

# **HISTORY OF MEDICINE.**



## HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

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AMONG the various sciences and literary pursuits of life, there is no one more pre-eminently important than that which is emphatically styled the healing art ; that which restores health, and brings comfort and joy to suffering humanity. It is an inestimable blessing, bestowed in mercy, to counterpoise the frail condition of our nature, and to meliorate or remedy the miseries which result from the indulgence of our vicious propensities. It assuages the anguish of corporeal disease, and soothes that keen mental distress which overwhelms the faculties of the soul. When we contemplate the condition of the inhabitants of the earth in the primitive ages of the world, we are struck with the formidable embarrassments which they were doomed to encounter. Unacquainted with the means of fortifying themselves against the numerous evils of life, they were continually exposed to casualties and disease, and at the same time destitute of such assistance as would afford the desired relief. Ignorant of the structure of the human frame, and of the laws of the animal economy, no rational method of cure could be devised, and their medical knowledge could consist only of an incongruous mixture of superstition and absurdities.

The primitive inhabitants, however, were blessed with firm original stamina, robust and vigorous constitutions, and were provided with plain and simple food for their subsistence ; either the spontaneous productions of the soil, or the easy acquisitions of agriculture. The climates which they enjoyed were probably of a mild and genial temperature ; the air, pure and serene ; and the natural means of health and comfort, their peculiar patrimony. While, therefore, they observed the rules of sobriety and temperance in their living, according to the dictates of nature and reason, and adhered to the principles of morality and virtue, their diseases could be neither so numerous, nor so complicate and difficult, as to require profound skill for their removal.

It is, nevertheless, presumable that this happy condition of the human race was not of long continuance ; but that a corruption of

manners was gradually introduced, and the seeds of disease sown either by irregularity or unavoidable accidents, and fostered by the baneful influence of effeminate and luxurious gratifications. The system of individuals having thus acquired a disposition to disease, it could not fail of being disseminated according to the laws of nature, and entailed, through their offspring, to succeeding generations. The novel and affecting scenes exhibited when diseases terminated in the extinction of life, must have excited among the early inhabitants an uncommon degree of consternation and alarm; and, being altogether ignorant of the true causes by which they were generated, they would probably ascribe such extraordinary phenomena to some supernatural power. Prompted by a spark of that reason implanted in the breast of man for his preservation, as the first principle in nature, they endeavoured to obtain from the most promising sources a remedy for their diseases. We are not to be surprised that the human mind, influenced by superstition, and untaught by experience, should associate the idea of religion with medicine, and resort to charms and incantations, in full confidence of accomplishing their desired purpose of preventing and curing every malady.

Such, in fact, was the melancholy condition of our species in the early part of their history. Ignorant priests, magicians and astrologers were their only physicians, and the superstition of the times animated their hopes, while it gave sanction to the grossest impositions. If, under infatuation and despair, consolation could have been derived from these sources of folly, fatal experience must soon have taught the sufferers that a cure of their maladies required more potent remedies, than those of sorcery and enchantment. In process of time, therefore, an expedient better suited to their circumstances, was put in practice for the attainment of medical knowledge. The sick were directed to be exposed in public places to the view of travellers and strangers, who were required to examine and compare their cases with such as might have fallen under their observation, and to recommend such remedies as had been known to produce beneficial effects in similar complaints; and, when discoveries were thus made, the precious remedies were held in veneration, and the knowledge of them was conveyed by oral tradition, or recorded upon pillars in the most public places, or on the walls of the temples consecrated to the god of health; and afterwards registers of cures were kept in those consecrated places for public instruction. Thus was the practice of medicine commenced under no other advantages than the simple principles of analogy; and many ages elapsed before this abstruse and important science was placed upon a more substantial foundation. The Egyptian medicine appears to have been little else than a collection of absurd superstitions. Among the Greeks, *Æsculapius* was the most celebrated of those to whom they attributed the invention of medicine. He was accounted the most eminent practi-



tioner of his time, and his name continued to be revered after his death. He was even ranked among the gods, and the principal knowledge of the medical art remained with his family till the days of Hippocrates, who reckoned himself the seventeenth in a lineal descent from Æsculapius. We are not furnished with a correct series of information relative to medical history, until about 450 years prior to the christian era ; when, amidst a cloud of darkness and ignorance, the superior wisdom and brilliant talents of the great *Hippocrates* were displayed to the world. Under the auspices of this prince of physicians, the healing art first assumed the form of science, and was known and practised as a regular profession. In the treatment of diseases, he studied and copied nature with the greatest care and assiduity, as the only sure basis of medical science ; and so extensive was his knowledge, and so accurate his observations, that he has been constantly held in veneration through succeeding generations. His numerous writings on medical subjects remain a monument of his penetration and judgment, and are considered by the learned as replete with lessons of instruction, even at the present day. By his unparalleled industry and perseverance, this father of medicine acquired a character and fame, which united the applause of nations around him, and divine honours were instituted to his memory. This extraordinary man was born in the island of Cos, and died in his 99th year, B. C. 361.

A medical school was established at Alexandria in Egypt, which was conducted by the most learned professors of this early period. Dissections and the study of anatomy and surgery were practised and patronised, and the institution, which flourished near a thousand years, has been renowned in history as the earliest and most important seat of medical literature and science. It was here that Herophilus and Erasistratus were distinguished for the vast number of human subjects which they dissected, some of which were the living bodies of criminals. Galen, a man of signal talents and a disciple of the Alexandrian school, whose life was devoted to the study and pursuit of medical science, was another celebrated name among the physicians of antiquity. He collected and arranged the rich treasures of medical knowledge, which the labors of the preceding ages had acquired, and made considerable improvement on the original stock. He is said to have been the author of five hundred volumes on medical subjects, and, with the exception of Hippocrates, was esteemed the greatest physician of antiquity. So surprising were the cures which he performed, that his skill was ascribed to magic ; and so high was the authority of his name, that, for about fourteen centuries, his systems and doctrines were most sacredly adhered to and revered in all parts of the world. Galen is said to have been converted from Atheism by the contemplation of a human skeleton.

In the early part of the 16th century, the noted *Paracelsus* flourished as a physician and chemist. He laid the foundation of

a chemical system directly opposed to that of Galen, which he resolved to subvert. He was an enthusiastic laborer in the cause of the alchymists, and boasted of being in possession of the philosopher's stone. He travelled through almost every country in Europe, consulting indifferently physicians, barbers, old women, conjurers and chemists. In the height of his prosperity he was appointed to deliver lectures in the town of Basle, in Switzerland, and was the first public professor of chemistry in Europe ; but he soon quarrelled with the magistrates about a medical fee, and departed from the city. He was extremely dissolute and eccentric in his manners and character. While seated in his chair as professor, he burned with great solemnity the writings of Galen and Avicenna, and declared to his audience, that, if God would not impart the secrets of medicine, it was perfectly justifiable to consult the devil. He invented a medicine which he termed the elixir of life, for the professed purpose of procuring longevity, and pretended that, by the use of it, his life would be protracted to the age of Methuselah. Continuing to ramble about the country, he sunk into the deepest dissipation, being scarcely ever sober, and never changing his clothes, nor sleeping in a bed : neither the counsel of the devil, nor his universal elixir, conferred on him his boasted gift of immortality, and he died in a hospital in the 48th year of his age. Nearly contemporary with Paracelsus was Michael Servetus, a Spanish physician distinguished for attainments in anatomical knowledge, who actually discovered, in the year 1553, the course of the blood through the lungs, which is termed the lesser circulation. But, in consequence of an unfortunate controversy in which he became involved with John Calvin, the celebrated religious reformer, a cruel sentence of death at the stake was passed against him for heresy ; and this valuable man, together with his writings, was, at the age of about 45 years, consigned to the flames.

It is an extraordinary circumstance that after the commencement of human dissections by Democritus, the contemporary and friend of Hippocrates, two thousand years should elapse before the very important discovery was made of the true circulation of the blood. Galen and his followers attributed to the liver the office of preparing the blood and transmitting it through the veins to all parts of the body, conceiving that air was contained in the arteries, and that the veins were the only true channels of the blood. It was also the opinion of some, that the blood moved forward and backward, like the ebbing and flowing of the tide. This glorious discovery was reserved to crown the labors of Dr. William Harvey, a learned English physician, who flourished in the seventeenth century. In the year 1628, his new theory of the circulation of the blood became the subject of his lectures, and by numerous experiments he demonstrated the attendant phenomena in a manner the most convincing and satisfactory, and it has been received as an invaluable acquisition to the science of medicine.

Great and manifold are the advantages derived to mankind from the ingenious research and labors of the immortal Harvey. His noble discovery, which had eluded the research of ages, subverted the fallacious doctrines of the ancients, and at once effected a total revolution in the theory and practice of medicine. Of all the discoveries recorded in medical history, this is incomparably the most important in its effects and consequences. Such, however, is the ignoble spirit of jealousy and envy, that it is not usually the fate of novel doctrines, however important, to be received without opposition; accordingly we find that there were some, who, biassed by passion and interest, had the boldness to deny the facts so fairly proved, and to calumniate the name of the illustrious discoverer. Every argument against him was, however, completely refuted and silenced, and his new principles of circulation universally established before the termination of his honorable life. It is observed by a judicious writer, that "the books of Harvey present us with many indications of a great mind, acute discernment, unwearied application, original remark, bold inquiry, and a clear, forcible and manly reasoning." He was not less distinguished for his piety, than for his erudition; and, at the close of his useful life, he was consoled with the reflection, that the spirit of malevolence, so hostile to his merit and fame, became attempered to the grateful duty of enhancing and perpetuating the honor justly due to his exalted character.

Medical, like all other knowledge, is progressive, and the melancholy triumphs of disease over its victims, and the numerous examples of medical impotency, clearly evince that the combined stock of both ancient and modern learning is greatly insufficient to perfect our professional knowledge. The science of medicine in Europe had long continued at a very low ebb until the era of its revival which commenced in 1719, when, by the splendid talents and industry of Dr. Munro senr., the establishment of the celebrated medical school of Edinburgh was happily accomplished. This honorable achievement was succeeded by similar institutions in various parts of Europe. The talents of William and John Hunter in London, of the great Boerhaave in the university of Leyden, and some kindred spirits in France, seemed to combine their efforts to elevate medical science to a signal and dignified condition of improvement. In America the cultivation of the healing art had not been commensurate with our national progress in wealth and population; but we were not long destitute of brilliant and philanthropic characters to follow in the laudable pursuit for the benefit and the honor of their native country.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

It is only from the most scanty materials, and with the aid of tradition, that we can trace the origin and progressive improvements in the healing art, among the early settlers of the American colonies. It was not selfish views of pecuniary interest, nor motives of secular ambition, that wrought on the pure spirits of our fathers; but the noblest principles of religious liberty and religious reformation, were awakened in their souls, and bore them on to their destined place of refuge. Physicians of high standing in professional acquirements and experience, could find no adequate motive to induce them to quit a lucrative establishment in their native land of civilized society, to encounter perils and hardships, and to become exiles in an uncultivated wilderness. Providence, however, had provided a source from which the settlers were to be supplied with that medical assistance, which their peculiar circumstances imperiously demanded. The puritanic, clergy in England were, for more than twenty years prior to the emigration of the first settlers, subjected to the sharpest persecution. The prospects of the nonconformists, of a peaceful and comfortable subsistence, rested on the most precarious tenure, constantly liable to the frowns of tyrants, by which they were prohibited the liberty of exercising the duties of their sacred calling according to the dictates of their own conscience. Hence, as a precautionary measure in case of an ejection, a considerable number of clergymen of that period, were educated to the medical profession, and not a few were eminent practitioners before they crossed the Atlantic. Besides, we find that it was not uncommon in their day for a part of education to consist in the study of ancient medical authors, as Hippocrates, Galen, Aretæus, Celsus, &c., as among the accomplishments of a finished scholar. New England, therefore, at its earliest settlement, was provided with some able and well educated physicians; though not favoured with the great facilities of the present day, our fathers were no less learned in the science of their time, than we in ours. When these professional men came to form ministerial connexions in the colonies, it was found that the small congregations were unable to afford them a comfortable support; hence the necessity and the convenience of their resort to secular avocations; and what more eligible, or more consonant with the benevolent views and feelings of puritan clergymen, than to minister to the relief of their suffering brethren, and to render consolation in the solemn hour of dissolution? The practice of medicine, therefore, was in many instances united with the parochial duties of ministers of religion. More exalted, however, were their avocations than those of the ancient priests of Egypt, of Greece and Rome, for they had made respectable attainments in medical science, and were well qualified for great usefulness in their respective callings, they were actuated by the purest motives

and the highest considerations of benevolence. By their amiable manners, zealous attention and pious converse, they endeared themselves to their people ; mutual attachments were formed, and the fullest confidence was reposed in their medical skill. While in some instances the duties of the physician, of the teacher of religion, and of the instructor of youth, devolved on the same individual, some of the eminent civilians also of our early history were found to participate in the same duties of benevolence. The honourable John Winthrop, son of governor Winthrop of Massachusetts, was eminent in medicine as well as in philosophy, and was one of the founders of the Royal Society. New England from its first settlement has not been without able and learned men in every profession. It is highly honorable to our fathers that their civil and religious institutions, however imbued with the imperfections of their turbulent age, are incomparably the wisest and the best that any legislative body ever bequeathed to their posterity ; and in their literary and scientific foundations, we recognise the radical principles which are cherished at the present age as the immutable laws of civil and religious freedom. The independence, liberty, and privileges, which the whole United States now enjoy, are almost entirely the emanations from the noble spirit which was inherited from the early settlers of New England. It should therefore be our endeavor to preserve their sons from dishonoring their fathers' holy standard, by exhibiting to their contemplation in a fair and impartial light, the lives of some of their distinguished ancestors ; unshielded from the rigors of a boisterous season, they were compelled to erect citadels of defence against the attacks of cruel savages, while their hearts were pierced with the keenest anguish by the arrows of death, depriving them of rulers, parents, husbands, wives and children. How cheering would have been the consolation, could those pious fathers have foreseen a period like the present, when their descendents, assembling in magnificent temples are gratefully chanting their praises, and cultivating those principles of virtue, patriotism and religion, which they assiduously cherished as the objects of their fondest attachment. It was but shortly after the landing of the first emigrants at Plymouth, December 22, 1620, that they were visited with severe sickness. Having undergone the perils of a long voyage in an inclement season, subjected to fatigue, privations and sufferings, their constitutions impaired, their spirits depressed, and their hopes in many respects frustrated ; it is no matter of surprise that they were afflicted with uncommon mortality, inasmuch that nearly one half of their number perished during the first winter. But it was their laudable zeal, and heavenly mindedness that first inspirited them to commence the race of liberty and glory, and it was the same sublime spirit that fortified their minds against scenes of woe and despair.

It is not to be considered an extraordinary circumstance that more than a century and a half elapsed after the first settlement of the colonies, before a single effort was made, either by public authority or by the enterprise of individuals, for the establishment of institutions for the education of physicians, or the regulation of the practice of medicine. Our ancestors were strongly impressed with the importance of general education, and it was their constant solicitude to provide for institutions of learning, as far as was practicable. But the welfare of the church and their political economy were made paramount to all other considerations. The peculiar motives which prompted their emigration to this country, the difficult circumstances which they were called to encounter, and the depressed state of medical science in the countries whence they came, will furnish the most ample apology for their neglect of the means of improved medical education. They possessed a spirit of submission to the privations incident to a new settlement, and they enjoyed a religious confidence in the skill of their clerical physicians; besides which, several accomplished European physicians had emigrated with the early settlers. In process of time a considerable number of young graduates from our colleges repaired to Europe to complete their medical education in the public schools, and to qualify themselves to practise in the colonies.\* The period can be recollected when it was not uncommon for a skilful surgeon to ride one and even two hundred miles to perform a capital operation, and so late as about the middle of the eighteenth century a patient afflicted with stone in the bladder actually crossed the Atlantic, to have the operation of lithotomy performed by the celebrated Dr. Cheselden in London. Medical libraries had no existence in the country, and it was seldom that students could have access to the elementary works necessary for their instruction. No medical journal was published in America until near the close of the eighteenth century, through which physicians could communicate the results of their experience, or make known their improvements and discoveries; not even a newspaper was printed till the year 1704.† Hence it is not strange that we are so little acquainted with the character and practice of our predecessors.

The first physician of whom we have any account among the

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* Harvard college was founded at Cambridge	- - - - -	1638
William and Mary college of Virginia	- - - - -	1691
Yale college in Connecticut	- - - - -	1700
Princetown college in New Jersey	- - - - -	1746
Philadelphia college	- - - - -	1754
King's, now Columbia college New York	- - - - -	1754

All these colleges furnished students for European medical institutions.

† The first newspaper printed in America was the *Boston News-Letter*, begun April 24, 1704, by B. Green. The first in Pennsylvania, December 22, 1719. First in New York, October 16, 1725. First in Charleston, S. C. 1730. In Rhode Island, October, 1732. In Connecticut, 1755. In New Hampshire, 1756.

the colonists, was Dr. *Samuel Fuller*. (b) He formed one of the company who came over in the first ship, and was a deacon in Rev. John Robinson's church. Whether he had enjoyed a collegiate education is uncertain, but he is said to have been well qualified in his profession; he was zealous in the cause of religion, and eminently useful as a physician and surgeon. He extended his benevolent labors not only to the sick among his immediate friends at Plymouth and the aborigines in the vicinity, but in 1628 and 1629, by the desire of governor Endicot, he twice visited the new settlement at Salem, where he manifested his skill and success in practice among the numerous sufferers under scurvy and other diseases introduced there by the ships on their arrival. He received the entire approbation of governor Endicot, and his letters of thanks for his useful services. In a letter to governor Bradford, June 28, 1630, Dr. Fuller says, "I have been to Matapan (now Dorchester), and let some twenty of those people blood." What disease prevailed among them to require the loss of blood in the warm season of June, we are unable to determine. In the year 1632, the settlers at Plymouth were visited with a disease which they called an infectious fever, of which upwards of twenty men, women and children died, among whom was their pious and excellent physician, Dr. Fuller. The same disease proved very fatal also among the native Indians.

In the year 1633, Dr. *Giles Firmer* was a deacon in the Boston church, and was esteemed as an able physician, and a man of learning. In 1637, it is noticed that Dr. *John Fisk* arrived and settled at Salem, where he sustained a respectable character as a clergyman and physician. *William Gager* accompanied governor Winthrop to Boston in the character of surgeon, where he died greatly lamented. At the first commencement at Harvard college, in 1642, *Samuel Bellingham* and *Henry Saltonstall* were graduated, and were afterwards honored with the degree of M. D. at European universities, and both were reputed learned and skilful physicians. *Leonard Hoar* was graduated at Cambridge in 1650, and repaired to England, where he studied medicine and received the degree of M. D.; he returned to New England, and was for about two years president of Harvard college. *John Glover*, in 1650, repaired to England, and returned after having the degree of M. D. conferred on him at Aberdeen. *Isaac Chauncy* was graduated in 1651, and was honored with the degree of M. D. in Europe. *John Rogers* M. D. was president of Harvard college from 1682 to 1684, but whether he was in the practice of medicine is uncertain. *Charles Chauncy* (b) was president of Harvard college in 1652; he had a medical education in England, and had six sons educated at Harvard college, all of whom studied medicine, and were said by Dr. Mather to have

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(b) This letter denotes those whose biography is to be found in this volume.

been eminent physicians as their father was before them ; several of them removed to England and did not return. *Mathew Fuller*, a relation probably of Dr. Samuel Fuller, first of Plymouth, about 1640, removed to Barnstable in 1652, where he died, 1678. He was appointed Surgeon General of the provincial forces raised in Plymouth colony in 1673, and he is also styled Captain in 1675. Item from his inventory. Surgeon's chest and drugs £16.0.0. Library, £10.0.0. *Thomas Starr*, of Yarmouth, as early as 1640, and living there in 1670, is occasionally styled Chirurgeon in the public records. *Comfort Starr*, Chirurgeon, first of Newtown, alias Cambridge, removed to Duxbury, in Plymouth colony, in 1638, whence after a short period he removed to Boston, where he died about 1663. *Samuel Seabury*, styled Chirurgeon in the records, appears in Duxbury, in Plymouth colony, at an early date, where he died 1680. Items of his inventory. Nicholas Culpepper's Practice of Physic, £1.4.0. Ditto Anatomy 3s. Reed's Practice of Surgery, 1s. 6d. Physician's Practice, 1s. Latin Herbal, £1.10.0. Art of Distillation, by John French, 2s. Surgeons' Instruments 12s. Antimonial Cup, 5s. *Thomas Little*, born in Marshfield, Plymouth colony, graduated at Harvard college 1695, settled in Plymouth as a physician about 1700, where he died, 1712, aged 38 years. He held several civil offices in the county of Plymouth, and was also a merchant of some note ; one of his sons, *Thomas Little*, was a physician in Chilmark, 1726. Surgeon's chest of Thomas Little senr. £17.10.0.

*Thomas Oliver*, who was an elder in the Boston church, is mentioned with high approbation in Winthrop's Journal, as an experienced and skilful surgeon about 1644. The new settlers, from exposure to extreme hardships and to famine, were frequently afflicted with alarming and fatal diseases, which at some periods threatened almost a total extinction of their population. At different times from 1678 to 1702, the smallpox spread through the colonies, and, from the injudicious mode of treatment, its effects were like a mortal scourge wherever it appeared. But in the year 1646 these virtuous people were much grieved by the discovery of a disease in Boston, with which till then they were entirely unacquainted, and which, the venerated Winthrop in his Journal says, raised a scandal upon the town and country though without just cause. This proved to be *Lues Venerea*. It originated with the wife of a seafaring man, who after child birth was affected with ulcerated breast. Many persons were employed to draw this woman's breast, by which means about sixteen persons, men, women and children, were affected with this new and odious disease. The nature of the complaint was at length ascertained ; but no physician could be found in the country who was acquainted with the method of cure. But it fortunately happened that at that very season a young surgeon arrived from the West Indies, who had been experienced in the disease, and he soon performed



a cure. In the summer of 1647, an epidemical sickness spread through the country, among English, French, Dutch and Indians. It resembled a cold attended by slight fever, (probably Influenza.) Those, says Winthrop, who were bled or used cooling things, died, those who took comfortable things, for most part recovered in a few days. Not a family, and but a few persons escaped an attack of this epidemic: about 40 or 50 died in Massachusetts, and about the same number in Connecticut, among whom was the Rev. Mr. Thomas Hooker, pastor of the church in Hartford. Dr. *Nathaniel Williams* was graduated at Harvard college in 1693. He was ordained a minister of the gospel, but was for many years a very useful instructor of the south grammar school in Boston, and was very popular as a practising physician, to which he devoted the latter part of his life, and was called the "beloved physician," from his kind and tender deportment in the chamber of the sick. He died in 1739. He published a pamphlet on the inoculation of the smallpox in 1721. *Thomas Thacher*, (b) who came over to New England in 1635, was educated to the ministry, and was the first minister of the Old South Church in Boston. He also received a medical education, was considered a great divine, and learned physician; and preaching and practising to general approbation, attained great eminence in both professions, and in the learned languages. He published a work entitled, "A Brief Guide in the Smallpox and Measles" in 1677, which is the first medical publication found on record in New England, if not in America. In 1669, it appears that *Henry Taylor*, Surgeon in Boston, had his rate omitted in consideration of a cure performed and a promise to attend the sick poor, or such as may be hurt; and in 1671, Dr. *Daniel Stone* undertook to attend the town's poor, for twenty shillings money, and remittance of taxes. Several persons by the name of *Clark* are found on record as Physicians and Surgeons. Drs. *Thomas Oaks* and *William Hughes* were in some repute as medical men in Boston from 1685 to 1695. Dr. *Elisha Cooke* senr. practised physic with much reputation in the town of Boston in the latter part of the 17th century. He was a great politician, and for more than 40 years a popular leader in the general court, and was a member of the council. He died in 1685, aged 78 years. Dr. *Elisha Cooke* jun. followed the political course of his father, and was one of the most popular political characters in the town of Boston, and a leader of the debates in the house of representatives. He was sent to the court of Great Britain as agent for the people of Massachusetts, and was afterwards elected a counsellor. He died in the year 1737. The two *Cookes*, according to Dr. *Eliot's* biography, were the most zealous republicans who ever acted their parts in Massachusetts Bay. Having thus exhibited such a sketch of the state of medicine in Massachusetts during the 17th century as the imperfect documents at command enable us to compose, we

enter upon the history of medical science in the 18th century under more auspicious advantages, and shall close with more honorable and important results.

In the year 1721, after an absence of nineteen years, the smallpox again invaded the settlements of the planters with its usual cruel ravages. This disease had ever been considered as one of the greatest scourges with which the human race had been afflicted. Such was the dreadful virulence of this pestilence, that a large proportion of the sick became its victims, and the most of those who escaped with their lives, were disfigured with scars and pits, which destroyed the comeliness of the countenance, and in some instances a total blindness was the consequence. Those who have not been conversant with this formidable malady, can form no conception of the hideous spectacle exhibited by one suffering under malignant smallpox. The head is swollen to a monstrous size, the eyes are entirely closed, the lips swollen and of a livid color, and the face and surface of the whole body are covered with maturated pustules, from which issue purulent matter; the miserable being has the appearance of a putrid mass, and scarcely the semblance of the human form remains. The visitation of the smallpox at this period afforded occasion for an event, which in its consequences may be ranked among the most important to the welfare of mankind that have ever been recorded in the annals of medicine. It is the introduction of *Inoculation of Smallpox* as a substitute for the natural infection: it is in fact a triumph over that mortal scourge, disarming it of its malignity, and reducing it to comparative mildness and safety. If reliance can be placed on tradition, the art of inoculation may be traced back to remote antiquity;\* but it was not until the first part of the 18th century that it attracted the notice of the most intelligent and enlightened class of mankind, and it was first regularly adopted in England in the year 1721. The celebrated Lady Mary Wortley Montague, having resided sometime in Constantinople, became acquainted with the method of inoculation as practised by some Turkish women, and satisfied with its safety and salutary effects, subjected her son to the operation of *engrafting* as it was then

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\* It is a remarkable fact, that in many countries in Europe, and in Africa and Asia, particularly in Hindoostan and China, inoculation for the smallpox was practised by the common people, for many years before its introduction by the physicians of Great Britain; and, in some of them, as far back as tradition can be traced. It is also a still more remarkable fact, that in *Wales*, in the Highlands of *Scotland*, among the ignorant peasantry of *Germany*, in the interior of Africa, and in several parts of the *Asiatic* continent, distant as they are from each other, differing widely as they do, in manners, customs, law and religion, the art of communicating this disease by inoculation was designated by the singular phrase of *buying the smallpox*; because it was superstitiously imagined that inoculation would not produce the proper effect unless the person from whom the variolous matter was taken received a piece of money, or some article in exchange for it. See Woodville's history of Inoculation, and Miller's 18th Century.

termed. On her return to England, she directed that her daughter should undergo the operation, which was performed by her surgeon, Mr. Maitland, in April, 1721, and this was the first instance of inoculation in the English dominions. About the same time, Dr. Cotton Mather, a learned divine in Boston, having observed in the Philosophical Transactions printed in London, an account of inoculation by Timoni & Pylarini in Turkey, communicated the information to several physicians in Boston, who treated the subject with contempt. He then recommended to his friend Dr. Zabdiel Boylston (*b*) to adopt the practice. Accordingly with the little information which he could obtain from that publication, and in the face of the most violent opposition, on the 27th day of June, 1721, Dr. Boylston inoculated first his only son about thirteen years of age, and two negro servants, in which he was completely successful. This had the happy tendency, not only to confirm in his own mind the safety and utility of inoculation, but in some degree to quiet the fears of others. In the year 1721, and first part of 1722, Dr. Boylston inoculated 247 persons, and 39 were inoculated by other persons in Boston and its vicinity. Of this number six only died, and several of these were supposed to have taken the infection before inoculation. In the same period, 5759 took the disease the natural way, of whom 844 died, and many of those who recovered were left with broken constitutions and disfigured countenances. The degree of *odium* and *persecution* which Dr. Boylston brought upon himself by this very laudable innovation, is almost incredible. His house was attacked with so much violence that he and his family could not feel themselves safe in it. He was assaulted in the streets, loaded with every species of abuse, and execrated as a murderer. Indeed many sober pious people were deliberately of opinion, when he commenced the practice of inoculation, that if any of his patients should die, he ought to be capitally punished. A bill was brought into the legislature for prohibiting the practice under severe penalties, and it actually passed the house of representatives; but some doubts existing in the council, its progress was arrested, and it never became a law. (Hutchinson's History of Massachusetts, vol. 2d.) But Dr. Boylston was repeatedly summoned before the selectmen of Boston, and received their reprehension. He not only suffered the greatest indignity from an enraged populace, but the resentment and censure of his professional brethren, who formed a powerful combination against him; although he repeatedly invited them to visit his patients and examine for their satisfaction. The novelty of the subject and the strong prejudices then subsisting, caused much public agitation, and involved both clergymen and physicians in a spirited and intemperate controversy. The clergymen in general, however, acted an honorable part, and many of them became zealous advocates of the new practice, while most of the medical faculty were its active and violent op-

posers. The newspapers teemed with pieces on both sides of the interesting controversy, and from the opponents of inoculation issued some of a virulent and scurrilous character. The *New England Courant* printed by the Franklins, (the young philosopher himself being one of the editors) was under the influence of the physicians, who abused the clergy for their interference in the matter in controversy. Some of the clergy received personal injury, others were insulted in the street, and were hardly safe in their houses, nor were their services acceptable on Sunday, until the success of the practice induced the people to think that it was the hand of Providence in their favor. Dr. *William Douglass*, (b) a Scotch physician of considerable reputation in Boston, took the first rank in the opposition, and his coadjutors were *Lawrence Dalhonde*, a French practitioner of popular talents, and *Joseph Marion*. Dr. Douglass was a man of learning and abilities, but conceited and arrogant, and behaved with great disingenuousness on this occasion. He published *Essays on Inoculated Smallpox* in 1722, and in 1730. During the malevolent persecution of Dr. Boylston, Dr. Dalhonde was prevailed upon to frame a singular deposition before two magistrates in Boston, and the selectmen of that town had the effrontery to publish it in support of their opposition. Notwithstanding the palpable falsehood of the deposition, it was not only industriously circulated in New England, but even in London, where it was reprinted to expose its absurdity. (See note A. at the end of this sketch.) Dr. Boylston, however, being a man of great benevolence and courage, in despite of obloquy and opposition, persevered in his professional duty, and ultimately enjoyed the happy results of his very useful labors. The practice of inoculation gradually gained ground and became general in New England, and in a few years it was extended to New York, Philadelphia and Charleston. By the invitation of Sir Hans Sloane, Dr. Boylston visited London, where he was highly respected, and honored by being elected a fellow of the Royal Society, and introduced into the presence of the royal family. While in that city in 1726, he published by desire of the Royal Society, an historical account of the smallpox inoculation as practised by him in Boston, which he dedicated to Princess Caroline, and after his return it was reprinted in Boston, a copy of which has been deposited in the medical library at Harvard college, by Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq. See the biography of Dr. Boylston in this volume.

In the year 1752, the country was again scourged by a visitation of smallpox, and by order of the magistrates an account was taken of all who were affected with the disease, either in the natural way or by inoculation, in the town of Boston, and rendered on oath; by which it appears that the number of inhabitants amounted to 15,734. The whole number of smallpox patients the natural way was 5544, of which 514 died. The number of inocu-

lated was 2113 of which 30 died. Hitherto mercury had not been employed as a preparatory for inoculation in Boston; but according to Dr. Gale, in the year 1764 three thousand persons recovered from inoculation in the new method by the use of mercury, and eight only died, and these were chiefly children under five years of age. Practitioners in general had not at this time abandoned the very injurious method of treatment in smallpox. Contrary to the cooling system of the great Sydenham, the sick were warmly covered in bed, heating and stimulating medicines were freely administered with the view of keeping out the eruption and promoting a profuse perspiration; and some there were who would not permit the linen of the sick to be changed during the whole course of the disease, however copiously the bodily filth might have been accumulated. But about the year 1766, Dr. Sutton, an English physician, and Baron Dimsdale, an experienced and able practitioner, promulgated their improved mode of treatment by exposing patients to the cool air, allowing them to drink cold water, and administering mercurial purgatives and refrigerant medicines. Ancient prejudices soon vanished, and the new plan gradually became general, and was adopted in America as the most rational and successful method of treatment. The first public hospitals for smallpox inoculation of which we have any record in New England, were opened in the vicinity of Boston in 1764, one at Point Shirley, by Dr. William Barnet, from New Jersey, and another at Castle William, in Boston harbor, by Dr. Samuel Gelston, of Nantucket. Mercury was at this period in the highest repute for its supposed specific powers as an antidote to the variolous poison, and it constituted a part of the preparatory course of every experienced inoculator. When the British army evacuated the town of Boston, in March 1776, the smallpox was found lurking in various parts of the town, and to prevent its general spreading all the inhabitants and the American troops stationed there were subjected to inoculation, and with a successful result. Hospitals for the purpose of inoculation were again established in various parts of Massachusetts, particularly at Cambridge and Brookline, by Drs. Isaac Rand, William Aspinwall, and Lemuel Hayward, by whom more than two thousand persons were inoculated in one year, and by whose successful mode of treatment the practice of inoculation was greatly encouraged, and its benefits extensively diffused. The high confidence hitherto reposed in the efficacy of a mercurial course, was now considerably diminished, and practitioners were daily strengthened in the opinion, that success depended principally on the cooling regimen, air and antiphlogistic diet with which it was accompanied.

The smallpox again visited the town of Boston as an epidemic in 1792. The whole town was inoculated in three days to appease the infatuation among the inhabitants with respect to the danger of

infection of the deadly pestilence. The hurry and confusion in which inoculation was resorted to on this occasion, precluded the possibility of affording in every instance the requisite attention, and of adopting the most judicious and eligible mode of procedure. The number inoculated was 9152 persons indiscriminately, and 165 deaths were the consequence. These, however, were chiefly the people of poor families, many of whom were destitute of the comforts of life. Little reliance was now placed on the specific action of mercury in this disease. In many instances it was entirely dispensed with, and shortly after altogether abandoned.

In the years 1735 and 1736, the disease called *angina ulcusculosa*, (*angina maligna*) prevailed extensively throughout the country in its most malignant form, and it was estimated that in Massachusetts alone about one thousand persons became its victims. On this occasion calomel was for the first time administered as a remedy, and attended with the happiest success, arresting in a surprising manner the fatal tendency of the disease. Dr. William Douglass published a valuable practical essay detailing the characteristics and the method of treatment of this alarming complaint.

Among the earliest publications on medical subjects in America, was an essay on fevers, published in Boston in 1732, by Dr. John Walton. Dr. John Cutler was long an eminent physician and surgeon in Boston. He was the preceptor of several of the early physicians, among whom was Dr. Zabdiel Boylston. The gentlemen now to be noticed were those who chiefly commanded the practice in Boston during the middle and latter part of the eighteenth century. The most of whom were employed to inoculate the poor of the town when the smallpox was prevalent among them in the year 1764. Dr. *Sylvester Gardiner* sustained a high reputation as an operative surgeon and was for a long period the most noted druggist in New England. He died at Newport, in 1786, aged 80 years. Dr. *Benjamin Church* (b) was very popular among the whigs, and was gaining practice before his unfortunate transaction in 1775. Dr. *James Lloyd*, (b) was considered as highly accomplished in all the branches of the profession, but particularly distinguished for his skill in surgery and midwifery, being the first and most eminent practitioner in this latter branch in Boston, and probably in New England. He kept a genteel equipage, and entertained company with great liberality, and he commanded a more respectable circle of professional business than any other physician of his day. Dr. *Joseph Warren*, (b) memorable for patriotism and public virtue, was in a full circle of medical practice, and educated a number of young gentlemen for the profession before the event of the battle in which he so gallantly sacrificed his life. Dr. *Thomas Bulfinch*, senr. (b) was in much repute in his profession. Dr. *Thomas Bulfinch*, junr. (b) enjoyed a large share of very genteel practice, and lived in a handsome style, keeping a chariot, and was greatly valued and respected by all who required his attendance. Dr. *Miles*



*Whitworth* was considered as possessing good medical abilities, and, residing in Boston during the siege, he was the attending physician and surgeon of the American prisoners who were wounded in the battle on Bunker's Hill in 1775. They were thrown into the common jail in Boston, and provided with little more than the ordinary jail provisions, in consequence of which they suffered greatly, and many died, in particular Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner, or Parker, a very respectable man; but their sufferings were greatly alleviated by the humane attentions of Dr. Whitworth. Dr. *Nathaniel Perkins* practised in Boston before the revolutionary war, and was very respectable and popular. Drs. *William Lee Perkins*, *John Perkins*, *Philip Godfrey*, *Benjamin Curtis*, *Kast*, (*b*) *Roberts*, *Barret*, *Pecker*, and *Pyncheon*, were contemporaries and enjoyed a good share of professional reputation and practice, in Boston. Dr. *Joseph Gardener* was in high reputation both as a physician and surgeon, and was a dexterous operator. He pretended that he regarded learning as superfluous in a physician, that the bedside was the only school for a practitioner; but he did, nevertheless, devote some time to study, and was more learned than he chose to appear to be. He was remarkable for wit and satire, and retained his popularity during life. Dr. *Joseph Whipple* was taken under the patronage of Dr. Gardener, was for some time secretary of the Massachusetts Medical Society, was rising from small beginnings into notice and business, but died in 1804, aged 48 years. Dr. *Nathaniel Appleton*, was a most amiable man, but too diffident to display his real worth and abilities, which were far above mediocrity. Dr. *Charles Jarvis* (*b*) was held in much respect, and greatly beloved as a physician, and distinguished in the ranks of democracy as an active politician, after the establishment of the federal constitution.

Dr. *John Sprague* was a pupil of Dr. Dalhonde, of Boston, whose daughter he married. He early entered into extensive practice in Boston, and accumulated large property. He is said to have been a man of a good deal of natural acumen, of considerable reading, and of nice observation, and a very successful practitioner; he had a singular bluntness in his manners, but was amiable in his temper, a lover of money, but indulgent to his debtors. Having married a second wife, who was a lady of fortune, he retired and spent his last days in Dedham. Dr. *John Homans* was a Surgeon in the army during the revolutionary war, after which he settled in Boston, and was elected a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He received from nature a great share of good sense, which was well cultivated, and as a physician he was much employed and highly approved, being considered inferior to no one of his age. He discharged the duties of his profession with tenderness and humanity, and to the poor with disinterested benevolence. In 1800 he undertook a voyage for the recovery of his

health, but died on the second day after the departure of the vessel, June 3d, in the 47th year of his age.

The means of medical education in New-England were more limited and deficient than in the middle and southern provinces; no medical school nor public lectures were known. But when the alarm of war pervaded our country, and an army was formed, a new and vigorous impulse was given to the investigation of subjects pertaining to medicine and surgery. Military hospitals were established under the auspices of the most eminent professional characters, affording a fund of practical knowledge; and no circumstance in our history could have been more efficient in accelerating improvements in the most important of all the sciences. It was not, however, till since the close of the war for independence, that any thing more than a tardy and silent progress could have been expected, as our existing embarrassments and necessities required all our efforts and resources. It was, at the early part of the war, found extremely difficult to select medical men who were fully competent to the arduous duties pertaining to the higher stations in the hospital department; and numerous embarrassments and sufferings were experienced, till at length the most important offices were occupied by men no less distinguished for public virtue and genuine patriotism, than for medical dignity and eminence.\* Their united wisdom and skill were happily directed to the melioration of the condition of our military medical establishments, and ultimately to the promotion of professional knowledge, and the faithful discharge of duty among the surgeons of the army. Since the termination of our glorious struggle in the cause of liberty, the dark clouds which, in our infant state, enveloped the science of medicine, have been gradually dissipated, our imprisoned mental powers and faculties liberated and improved, and our medical character, like our national Independence, has been honorably and advantageously established. In the year 1781, and in several preceding years, great difficulties were experienced among professional men, by the fluctuating state of the old continental paper money. In order to obviate as far as was practicable the inconve-

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\* The first Director General of our military hospitals was Dr. Benjamin Church, of Boston; but being, soon after his appointment, charged with a treasonable correspondence with the British, he was tried and dismissed, and Dr. John Morgan, of Philadelphia, succeeded to his office. This gentleman was, however, superseded by Dr. William Shippen, and Dr. Benjamin Rush was appointed Physician General to the army, but a short time after he was induced to resign his commission. The following gentlemen are personally recollected as holding the stations of Physician or Surgeon General or Deputy Director General of the different departments of the army, viz.:—Malachi Treat, John Cochran and Samuel Stringer, of New-York; Jonathan Potts, of Pennsylvania; Robert Johnston and J. Brown, of Maryland or Carolina; James Craik, of Virginia; and Isaac Foster, of Massachusetts. Andrew Craigie, Apothecary General. Those who served as Hospital or Regimental Surgeons, belonging to Massachusetts, during the war, were—Isaac Foster, Samuel Adams, John Warren, William Eustis, David Townsend, John Homans, John Hart, Joseph Fisk, John Thomas, Abijah Richardson, Daniel Shute, James Thacher.



nience and loss sustained from this cause, the physicians of Boston instituted a club, the meetings of which were held at the Green Dragon tavern. Physicians' fees had been much below par, and when paid in depreciated paper money, little or nothing could be realized from them. The fee for a visit was one shilling and sixpence, afterwards increased to two shillings. Midwifery and capital operations were at a guinea, with charges for after visits. The first fees established by the medical club, were fifty cents for a visit; if in consultation, one dollar: rising and visit in the night, after 11 o'clock and before sunrise, double fee: obstetrical case, eight dollars: capital operation in surgery, five pounds: reducing a dislocation, or setting a fractured bone, one guinea: bleeding, opening abscess, extracting tooth, fifty cents, and the usual fee for visit was added. All accounts were to be calculated in hard money, and, if paid in paper, according to such agreement as could be made with the parties. The profession was much benefited by these regulations, having a happy tendency to bring physicians acquainted with each other, and to promote harmony and good fellowship; all party politics were prohibited at their meetings, and the medical fees were made more adequate to the services performed.

In 1784 scarlatina maligna appeared, and spread through the New-England states, but it was more benign in its effects than formerly. But a more distressing calamity visited the town of Boston in 1798: the yellow fever made its appearance, and exhibited every mark of great malignity. Although it was limited to a small section of the town, the deaths were about one hundred and forty-five, during the few months of its continuance. There were no evidences of its having been imported, nor any instance to justify the supposition of its being contagious. Boston was again visited by this fatal malady in 1802, with all the circumstances of its former malignant and destructive nature, and about fifty persons were its victims.\*

It should be noticed in this sketch, that, from about the first part of the 18th century, it has been the practice of many physicians of eminence in New-England, to administer mercury as an efficacious remedy in febrile diseases of every description. It was employed, not so much for its evacuating power, as with the intention of introducing it gradually into the system as an alterative. The fullest confidence was reposed in a moderate course of mercury in pleurisies and peripneumonies, esteeming it as the most efficacious attenuant and expectorant which the materia medica afforded. But the strongest prejudices against the use of mercury subsisted among all classes of people, and physicians were obliged to observe the utmost caution in its administration, as their popu-

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\* A more particular account of the yellow fever will be found under the head of Pennsylvania.

larity depended upon concealment. It was customary to give it the significant term of *ponderous medicine*, imagining that mercury acts upon the system by its ponderosity, destroying the too great siziness of the blood, and rendering pervious such vessels as might be obstructed by the *Error loci* of Boerhaave. In various chronic diseases, a deobstruent course, in the form of Plummer's pills, was a favorite remedy.

Among the epidemics which have visited our country, the *Influenza*, or *Tussis Epidemica* of Sydenham, deserves some notice in this place. It has prevailed in America at nine or ten different periods since the year 1733; but in the autumns of 1789 and 1807, it was more universally extensive and severe in its effects than at any preceding era of its visitation. It first appeared at New-York and Philadelphia, from whence it was, in a short time, diffused through every part of the continent. It was estimated at the time that three fourths of the inhabitants were, in a few days, affected with this singular epidemic, in a greater or less degree. The amazing rapidity with which it spread through the country, resembled more a storm agitating the atmosphere, than the natural progress of a disease from any contagious source. Almost a whole city, town, or neighborhood, became affected with its influence in a few days, and as it did not incapacitate people in general from pursuing their ordinary occupations, it was common to observe in every street and place of resort, a constant coughing, hawking, and wheezing, and in public assemblies little else was to be heard or attended to. Although all classes of people experienced the operation of the influenza, it is remarkable that a small number, comparatively speaking, were so ill as to require medical attendance, and instances of its fatal termination were of rare occurrence.

In the year 1799 the glorious discovery of the vaccine disease, which renders the human system unsusceptible of the smallpox, was announced in our newspapers and in the Medical Repository of New-York. The honor of this important discovery belongs to the late Dr. Edward Jenner, a celebrated English physician. Dr. George Pearson, of St. George's Hospital, had some agency in ascertaining the fact familiarly known for years before, that the dairy maids were proof against the smallpox, and suggested the use that might probably be made of that fact.\* Dr. Jenner, with great perseverance, matured and fully established the prophylactic efficacy of the vaccine disease, and for his invaluable enterprise the British Parliament granted him an honorable and liberal reward. The first information relative to this novel and singular discovery,

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\* Dr. Pearson transmitted in a letter to Dr. Hosack, of New-York, a thread impregnated with the matter of the vaccine virus; and in a letter to Dr. H., towards the close of 1798, and which accompanied a copy of his "Inquiry concerning the History of the Cowpox," published in London, November, 1797, he says, "I now send you my proof sheets of a new work on a subject which will much surprise you, and which promises to supersede that most loathsome disease, the smallpox."

although from unquestionable authority, did not receive in our country universal credence. By some it was treated as chimerical, while others resolved to suspend their opinion for the issue of future experiments. Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, however, then Professor of Medicine in the University at Cambridge, did not hesitate to proclaim his full confidence in the statements and facts, which he had received directly from Dr. Jenner. In July, 1800, he procured matter from thence, and tested the experiment in the persons of four of his own children, the eldest about seven years of age, who thus became the first subjects of vaccination in the United States; and being afterwards exposed to smallpox infection in the hospital of Dr. Aspinwall, they proved to be unsusceptible of its influence. This very laudable example was soon followed by many others, some of whom were tested by variolous infection, with the happiest result. These first successful examples produced in a great degree the desired effect of establishing the public confidence in the prophylactic efficacy of the vaccine disease. In the same year and at subsequent periods, Dr. Waterhouse presented to the public, historical and practical treatises on the cowpox, and communicated, through the medium of newspapers, useful and discriminating directions and precautions relative to the genuine disease. In the following September, Dr. James Jackson, of Boston, returned from London, and having acquired experimental knowledge, by attending the practice of vaccination with Dr. Woodville, generously contributed to its propagation in Boston and the vicinity. In the same year, Dr. Miller, of New-York, received vaccine matter from Dr. Pearson, of London, which failed, however, to produce the genuine disease, nor was another supply, sent on from Boston, attended with better success. In fact, spurious matter, in some instances, and want of skill and experience in the operator in others, occasioned numerous failures during the first attempts, which had the effect of damping public confidence, and restricting the exertions of the friends of vaccination. The Massachusetts Medical Society, early in 1801, addressed an application to the Vaccine Institution in England, requesting a supply of matter. Publications on this new subject were now continually multiplying, and the most gratifying evidences in favor of vaccination issued from various quarters. In the year 1802 the Boston Board of Health directed nineteen persons to be vaccinated under their inspection, all of whom were afterwards tested by the smallpox infection in the most satisfactory manner and with the happiest result. In the following year the junior physicians of Boston formed an association for the express purpose of bestowing gratuitously the benefits of vaccination upon the indigent, and of disseminating the matter among medical practitioners.

In 1808, a committee was appointed by the Counsellors of the Massachusetts Medical Society, for the purpose of collecting all the evidence which had transpired respecting the efficacy of the

cowpox, as preventive of smallpox, and to report the most eligible method of conducting the practice. A copious and interesting report was made and published in the communications of the society, accompanied with evidence sufficiently strong to remove every vestige of prejudice and uncertainty relative to the prophylactic powers of vaccination. In the year 1809, the towns of Milton and New-Bedford made arrangements for the vaccination of a considerable proportion of their inhabitants, which was attended with a successful result. The next attempt to disseminate the advantages of vaccination will be found in the transactions of the legislature of Massachusetts, who, in 1810, authorized the several towns to appoint committees, and raise monies annually for this important purpose. At length the glorious triumph of vaccination over that most dreaded scourge of the human race, the smallpox, became established by incontestable proofs, and has received the sanction and applause of the community, and of the wise and learned in the remotest regions of the earth. We can now congratulate the citizens of the United States, who, in common with the whole civilized world, are in possession of this heavenly blessing,—a blessing which eradicates from the catalogue of human miseries the most loathsome and fatal disease, and which happily closes one of the most crowded avenues to the tomb.

The horrors occasioned by the ravages of the yellow fever in our cities had scarcely ceased, when another epidemic equally formidable and malignant in its nature, and fatal in its consequences, commenced its distressing career, and spread terror and desolation through the interior of the country. This malady, which has obtained the name of *spotted fever*, was first noticed by Drs. Danielson and Mann, at Medfield, Mass., in March, 1806. Its ravages were afterwards experienced in Connecticut, and in 1810 it prevailed in the county of Worcester with unexampled mortality, baffling the powers of medicine, and setting at defiance the best skill of physicians. On this alarming occasion, the Counsellors of the Massachusetts Medical Society appointed a committee, with instructions to make all possible inquiry and investigation relative to the disease in question. Their report as to its causes, history and mode of treatment, was elaborate, honorable to themselves, and of great practical utility. The fact has been well ascertained that the disease is not contagious, as was by some at first apprehended. It is remarkable of this epidemic, that it is most rife in the cold seasons of winter and spring, and that it is more prevalent and genuine, in its character, in the interior, than in the vicinity of the sea-board. But, wherever it waves its standard, the arrows of death cross its paths, and all classes and sexes become its indiscriminate victims. In some situations and seasons, the proportion of deaths, in severe cases, is supposed to have been more than one half of the number seized. One instance occurred, at a considerable distance from any place where the disease was known to exist, of

the death of seven adult persons out of eight, belonging to four or five contiguous families, before the fifth day, and the eighth survived but a few days longer. In other more favorable instances, and under a more improved and judicious mode of treatment, the number of deaths, it is said, has not exceeded one in sixty or eighty. In many instances of this formidable disease, Dr. Fowler's arsenical solution proved to be a remedy superior to any other that was employed.

In the autumn of 1812, a formidable epidemic made its appearance among the soldiers of the United States' Army at Greenbush, and other military stations, where its desolating effects were marked with great severity. During the winter and spring of 1813, it was prevalent and extremely fatal among the inhabitants of Vermont, in the upper parts of the state of New-York, in several towns in the interior of Massachusetts and the state of Maine, assuming a multitude of treacherous shapes, and triumphing over its victims with inexorable sway. This pestilence has been termed *bilious peripneumony*, or *typhoid peripneumony*, according to its various symptoms and forms; and Dr. Thomas Miner has denominated it *typhus syncopalis*. In some of its appearances and forms it may be identified with the petechial fever above mentioned, and, if it be a distinct disease, there is an obvious and close analogy in their nature and character. It has been remarked that the petechial fever produces a peculiar derangement of the functions of the brain, while this latter epidemic directs its morbid powers to the pleura, lungs, heart and its membranes.

The University at Cambridge, Mass., has contributed to the interest and advancement of medical science, by an institution founded on the generous benefactions of several enlightened and liberal individuals. Dr. Ezekiel Hersey, of Hingham, who died in 1770, bequeathed one thousand pounds, and his widow, at her decease, a like sum, to be applied to the support of a professor of anatomy and surgery. His brother, Dr. Abner Hersey, of Barnstable, who died in 1786, and Dr. John Cuming, of Concord, were also donors to the amount of five hundred pounds each for the same laudable purpose; and William Erving, Esq. of Boston, left one thousand pounds towards the support of an additional professor. In conformity with the views of the patrons and donors, professors of talents and character were in 1782 appointed, by whom lectures on the several branches were regularly delivered, and students received the honors of the institution. In 1780, Dr. John Warren, while surgeon of a military hospital in Boston, commenced a course of anatomical lectures, and in the following year they were attended by the students of the university. Dr. Warren furnished a plan for a medical school which was adopted by the corporation of Harvard college, and he was appointed first professor of anatomy and surgery, Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse professor of the theory and practice of physic, and Dr. Aaron Dexter, professor of chem-

istry. This was the first essay made in New-England, for the establishment of an institution for medical education. George Holmes Hall, and John Fleet, were the first who were admitted in course to the degree of Doctor in Medicine at the university, in the year 1788. From a spirit of envy and jealousy towards the professors, great opposition was made to the degree being conferred upon the two candidates, and it was by the address and perseverance of Dr. Warren, that the object was finally accomplished. In consequence of many inconveniences, both to professors and students, and of the superior advantages which might result from lectures delivered in a more populous situation, the Corporation and board of Overseers of Harvard University deemed it expedient to establish a medical school in the town of Boston. The several courses of lectures were accordingly transferred, and commenced in that metropolis, in December, 1810. The immediate accession to the number of students, presents the most abundant and conclusive evidence, that the high expectations entertained of the superior advantages, which would be realized by the removal from Cambridge, were not imaginary. The annual increase of numbers at the Boston school, and the favorable attestations that their labors are justly appreciated, must afford the learned teachers the highest gratification. It must be conceded that the privileges and the means of acquiring medical knowledge, in our metropolis, are such as to justify the respect and full confidence of the public. The legislature of Massachusetts have granted the sum of \$20,000 to Harvard University, for the liberal purpose of improvement in the department of medicine. The professors are furnished with a very valuable and extensive chemical apparatus, which, by recent improvements and additions, is supposed to be most complete of any to be found in the United States. The university is also indebted to the liberality of Elias H. Derby, Esq. of Salem, for a fine collection of curious imitations in wax of various parts of the human body from Italy. In addition to the foregoing donations, very important contributions have been received from Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq. In the year 1798, this noble spirited gentleman secured to the college an annuity of one hundred and thirty-three dollars, one hundred dollars of the sum to be offered annually in prizes for three best dissertations on medical subjects. The subjects to be given out, and the prizes adjudged by a committee of medical gentlemen appointed by the corporation. The remainder of this annuity was to be carried annually to a fund for establishing an anatomical museum, and when the prizes are not assigned, that part of the annuity was to be added to the fund for the museum as above. For several years three prizes were offered, of late only two of fifty dollars each, or a medal of that value are proposed. In 1817, Mr. Boylston secured to the university an annuity of sixty dollars to be applied in



five premiums, two of fifteen, and three of ten dollars each, or medals of that value to those who should excel in elocution at a public trial in speaking the day after commencement ; the corporation to join with them five gentlemen as judges of the performances. The college is also indebted to Mr. Boylston, for his good offices in behalf of the university, with his friend John Nicholls, L.L. D. of London, who presented a valuable part of the injected anatomical preparations of his father, Dr. Frank Nicholls, and a manuscript owned by Dr. Mead, an admirable specimen of chirography. Mr. Boylston is the founder at the university of the Boylston medical library, consisting at present of 900 volumes of select works in medicine and surgery. Premiums have been annually awarded, agreeably to the design of the founder, for ingenious and approved dissertations, which sufficiently evince that this generous establishment is well calculated to inspire the desired laudable emulation among professional men of the rising generation, and to promote the interest of medical science in general.\* Candidates for the degree of Doctor in Medicine must attend two courses of the lectures of each of the medical professors in this university, and also their clinical practice in medicine and surgery during their lectures. They must study two years under the direction of a regular practitioner of medicine, and allow a third to elapse before they can be examined. Provided, however, that, in extraordinary cases, the medical professors, with the consent of the president, may dispense with one course of lectures on such conditions as may be thought reasonable. Those who have not received a university education, must satisfy the president and medical professors, of their knowledge in the Latin language and in experimental philosophy. The examination of candidates commences on the second Wednesday after the termination of the winter course of lectures, and the subjects of their examination are anatomy, surgery and midwifery, the theory and practice of medicine, chemistry, materia medica and clinical medicine. Each of the candidates approved prepares an inaugural dissertation on some medical subject, which dissertation, having been submitted to the faculty of medicine, at least fourteen days before, is read and defended at a public examination, in the philosophy chamber at Cambridge, on the Friday preceding the last Wednesday in

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\* The annual proceeds of the Boylston fund amount to one hundred dollars, which are divided into two premiums, to be awarded as above mentioned. Mr. Boylston has recently established another prize fund in connexion with the Boylston Medical Society, particularly for the medical class attending lectures in the university, and designed especially to improve young men in the style of writing on medical subjects. This institution has already produced very beneficial effects. We rejoice that the valuable life of the liberal minded donor has been protracted to witness the great utility of his munificence ; and it should be gratefully acknowledged that he has devoted his wealth and influence to the promotion of medical science to a greater extent than any other individual in America.

August, in presence of the governors and instructors of the university, and such members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and other individuals as may choose to attend. Each successful candidate is admitted to receive the degree of Doctor in Medicine, at the ensuing commencement. In the year 1809, John C. Warren, M. D. was associated with his father as adjunct professor of anatomy and surgery, and John Gorham, M. D. adjunct professor of chemistry; and in 1812, James Jackson, M. D. superseded Dr. B. Waterhouse, as professor of the theory and practice of physic. November 1st. 1815, John C. Warren, M. D. was inaugurated at the University Hall, professor of anatomy and surgery, as successor to the late lamented Professor Warren, who held that station for many years with great honor to himself and advantage to the institution, and who was no less distinguished for his talents and virtues than zeal and success in performing the arduous duties of his profession. On this occasion was announced the appointment of Jacob Bigelow, M. D. as lecturer on materia medica, and Walter Channing, M. D. as lecturer on the theory and practice of midwifery in the university. The present professors are

John C. Warren, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Surgery.*

John W. Webster, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

Walter Channing, M. D. *Professor of Midwifery and Medical Jurisprudence.*

Jacob Bigelow, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica.*

James Jackson, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic.*

*Berkshire Medical Institution*, was founded in 1822, and located at Pittsfield, under the charter of Williams College. Professors,

John P. Batchelder, M. D. *Professor of Surgery and Physiology.*

John D. Wells, M. D. *Professor of General Anatomy and Physiology.*

Henry H. Childs, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic.*

John Delamatter, M. D. *Professor of Pharmacy, Materia Medica and Obstetrics.*

Chester Dewey, A. M. *Professor of Chemistry, Botany, Mineralogy, and Natural Philosophy.*

Stephen W. Williams, M. D. *Professor of Medical Jurisprudence.*

The legislature of Massachusetts having endowed the university with funds for the erection of a college of medicine, a commodious edifice has been erected in Boston,\* and the lectures of Harvard

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\* The *Massachusetts Medical College*, erected 1815, is situated in Mason-street near the Boston Common and Mall. The building is of brick, 88 feet in



University commence in the lecture room annually, on the third Wednesday in October, and continue three months. During the lectures the students are supplied gratuitously with sets of osteological specimens for study, and can have the use of the dissecting room, on defraying the attendant expenses. They are admitted *without any expense* to the surgical operations and clinical practice of the Hospital. The faculty of medicine in Harvard University have founded by their private donations a library for the use of the students in medicine. The Boston medical library, consisting of nearly 2000 volumes, is now united with it, and deposited in the Medical College. These highly valuable collections of medical books, will afford a supply amply sufficient for all the purposes of students in each of the principal departments of medical science. A hall in the new building is appropriated and furnished with every necessary aid and convenience for the study of anatomy. Students have the aid of private demonstrations on any part they may prepare for the purpose, and every convenience is furnished to assist them in making preparations for their own use. The number of subjects for demonstration is as great as could be wished. The Massachusetts general Hospital institution was incorporated February 12th, 1811, and the Legislature endowed the corporation with the estate commonly called the Old Province House and land to be sold at the discretion of the said corporation and the proceeds to be applied as a foundation of a General Hospital. There are two separate departments of the Institution, the one called "The General Hospital," the other "The Asylum for the Insane." These are to be kept locally separate from each other, and the whole establishment is committed to the immediate direction of twelve trustees, to be chosen annually by the corporation, except four, who are to be chosen by a board of visitors appointed by the government.

The Asylum for the Insane has been established in a very eligible situation in Charlestown, and was opened for the reception of boarders October 1st, 1818.

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length, and 43 in its greatest breadth. Its figure is oblong, with a pediment in front, and an octagonal centre rising above the roof, and also forming a three-sided projection in the rear of the building. This is surmounted by a dome, with a skylight and balustrade, giving an appearance of elegance to the neatness and fit proportion of the building. The apartments on the first floor are, a spacious medical lecture room of a square form, with ascending semi-circular seats; a large chemical lecture room in the centre, of an octagonal form, with ascending seats; a chemical laboratory, fitted up with furnaces and accommodations for the costly apparatus used in the lectures; and a room to be occupied by the Massachusetts Medical Society, which is filled by a medical library, already consisting of 3 or 4000 volumes. In the second story is the anatomical theatre, the most extensive room, occupying the whole central part of the building, covered with the dome and skylight; with semi-circular seats, which are entered from above, and descend regularly toward the centre. In this theatre are placed a beautiful statue of the Venus of Medici, and a noble cast of the Apollo of Belvedere, designed to illustrate the external forms of the human body. A large and a small room for practical anatomy, together with another for the museum, occupy the extremities of the same story.

The corner stone of the General Hospital was laid in Boston, on the 4th of July 1818, in masonic form, in presence of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. This hospital was opened for the reception of patients in September 1821. The Massachusetts General Hospital is one of the most flourishing institutions in the United States, having received, within a few years, more than \$300,000 in private donations, in addition to its previous liberal endowment from the state legislature. Some of the most splendid instances of public generosity which the present age has witnessed, are to be found among the benefactions to the Massachusetts General Hospital. While this institution gives accommodation to the full extent of its means to the sick poor, it gives also admission to the students of the medical class attending the lectures of the physician and surgeon. Regular clinical lectures are now given during the winter by the professor of the theory and practice of physic, and students are admitted to the patients, to enable them to become practically conversant with the symptoms of diseases and the operation and influence of medicinal agents. It is obvious that the privilege of gratuitous admission to so extensive a course of medical and surgical practice, is an advantage not usually attainable in medical schools, and one of the highest importance which can be offered during the period of preparation for the medical profession. The number of beds provided for patients is at present one hundred; and the number of surgical operations of magnitude, performed in this hospital during the first two years and nine months, amounts to one hundred and twenty. The cleanliness, punctuality, and order observed at the hospital, the regular and daily attendance of the physician and surgeon, the care and attention in selecting suitable persons to serve as nurses and attendants on the sick, all combine to render this a most eligible and convenient asylum for those who may labor under chronic diseases, requiring the assistance of the most skilful physician and surgeon.

*Acting Surgeon, John C. Warren, M. D.*

*Assistant Surgeon, George Hayward, M. D.*

*Acting Physician, James Jackson, M. D.*

*Assistant Physician, Walter Channing, M. D.*

For obtaining admission, application in writing, mentioning the place of residence of the patient, must be left at the hospital. The physician or surgeon visits such patient if residing in Boston; and, if the patient is free from a contagious disorder, and is a fit subject for the Hospital, a certificate of admission is granted. If such patient does not reside in Boston, the application must be accompanied with a certificate from a respectable physician, stating that the patient is free from contagious disorder, &c. The visiting committee fixes the rate of board, which in every case is as low as the funds will permit. The sum fixed, includes medicines, medical attendance, nursing, food, and every other expense.

In case of accidents or sudden disease, the patients are received without delay, and strangers are admitted on the same conditions as others. A bond is required for the payment of the patient's board.

The Asylum for the Insane at Charlestown, is also an establishment of the highest importance, it enjoys one of the most salubrious situations in that vicinity, and is provided with every accommodation and convenience for the comfort and support of its unfortunate inmates. John McLean, Esq. late of Boston, at his decease, left the sum of one hundred thousand dollars to be added to its funds. In consequence of which, the Asylum has taken the name of the munificent benefactor, and is hereafter to be called the McLean Asylum for the Insane. It is under the superintendence of Rufus Wyman, M. D. an able and experienced physician, whose character for humanity and faithfulness is unquestionable, and whose mode of treatment has been attended with remarkable success, a large proportion of recent cases having been cured. Every application for admission must be in writing, and accompanied with, 1. A certificate that the candidate is insane, and free from contagious disease ; 2. A certificate of his or her property, and of any friends liable for his or her maintenance ; 3. A certificate of the ability of the persons proposed as principal and surety in the obligation for payment of board ; 4. A history of the case from its commencement, and the medical treatment. No boarders can be visited except by near relatives, or by others at their request in writing.

The establishment of a botanic garden at Cambridge, will doubtless prove, at a future period, an excellent auxiliary to the study of botany and pharmacy, and facilitate a knowledge of the indigenous plants of the country, and their introduction into our materia medica. Two townships of Eastern land have been granted by our legislature, and a subscription of \$30,000 was obtained, for the purchase of land, and other expenses of this valuable establishment. The situation affords the best advantages for the establishment, and the systematic arrangement adopted has been judicious and useful. It was for several years under the management of William D. Peck,\* as professor of Natural History, and a board

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\* William Dandridge Peck, Esq. formerly Professor of Natural History in Harvard University, merits a grateful recollection for his indefatigable labors in the pursuit of knowledge in the various branches pertaining to his professorship. For nearly twenty years his mind was most assiduously and intently devoted to the pursuits to which the bent of his genius and taste inclined him. Mr. Peck under numerous disadvantages so cultivated his mind as to become an able and profound botanist, and his knowledge of natural history was more extensive than that of any other individual in this part of the United States, perhaps in the nation. He was elected the first Professor of Natural History at Cambridge, in which he continued until his death, which took place in September 1822. He was a good classical scholar, he was fond of painting, and sculpture, and architecture, without professing to have skill in them. No man who ever saw the exquisite accuracy and fidelity with which he sketched the subjects of his peculiar pursuits, would doubt the refinement of his taste. In social life, his virtues were of that pure and simple cast which a

of trustees, of which the president of the Medical Society is *ex officio* a member.

The Massachusetts Medical Society was incorporated by an act of the legislature in 1781, and in the following June, was organized, and Edward A. Holyoke, M. D., of Salem, elected the first president. By several subsequent acts the constitution and by-laws have been so altered and reformed, as more effectually to promote the views and designs of the founders of this excellent institution. In the act of incorporation, the legislature have disclosed their views of the high importance of medical regulations and establishments, formed on liberal principles and fostered by the patronage of the government. They premise, that "It is clearly of importance that a just discrimination should be made between such as are duly educated and properly qualified for the duties of their profession, and those who may ignorantly and wickedly administer medicine, whereby the health and lives of many valuable individuals may be endangered, or perhaps lost to the community." The society is therefore "authorized and required to appoint censors or examiners of candidates, and to license such as may be found qualified for practice; to devise and direct such systematic mode of medical instruction as might be deemed requisite for candidates previous to examination, and to increase and diffuse medical knowledge." In order to subserve the views of the legislature, and to render the society extensively beneficial, it seemed desirable to unite and associate, as far as practicable, into one harmonious body of brothers, all the meritorious part of the medical practitioners in the Commonwealth. For this purpose, great exertions have been made by the counsellors and fellows, since their organization, to select those gentlemen whose education and respectability as physicians or surgeons justly entitle them to the honors and privileges of the society. The object in view is now accomplished, and the society consists of three hundred fellows, exclusively of honorary members and licentiates entitled to become members. The stated meeting of the society is on the first Wednesday of June annually, when a discourse on a subject connected with medical science is delivered by one of the fellows. At the annual meeting, a proper number of the fellows in the several counties of the state are elected by ballot to officiate as counsellors. This branch is authorized to elect fellows and honorary members, to appoint the officers of the corporation, to establish district societies, and, in general, to watch over and promote the interest of the Institution. The stated meetings of the council are on the day following the annual meeting of the society, and the first Wednesdays in October and February. The censors meet for the examination of candidates for practice, on the

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life devoted to such innocent and delightful pursuits, was calculated to produce. Since the decease of Professor Peck, the botanic garden has been committed to the direction of Mr. Nuttall.

Thursday next preceding the annual meeting of the society, on the days following the meetings of the council in October and February, and on special occasions, when the president by his written order may direct. The modes provided for admission into this society afford a facility which cannot fail of being satisfactory. Licentiates of the society and medical graduates at Harvard University, who have been reputably engaged in the practice of medicine three years from the reception of the license or diploma, and have supported an honorable private character, may claim a right of admission. The counsellors and fellows, having labored with unwearied assiduity to establish this institution on a respectable foundation, and having imbibed a tenacious concern for its dignity and interest, it was not to be expected that persons of deficient education or undeserving character, would be admitted to a participation of its honors and privileges; accordingly the by-laws provide that no person educated within the commonwealth shall be admitted to an examination by the censors of the society, or by those of any district society, unless he have the following qualifications. 1. He shall have such an acquaintance with the Greek and Latin languages as is necessary for a medical or surgical education, and with the principles of geometry and experimental philosophy. 2. He shall have attended two full courses of lectures, and studied three full years under the direction, and attended the practice of some one or more of the fellows or honorary members of the society; during which time he shall have studied the most approved authors in Anatomy, Chemistry, Materia Medica, Surgery, Midwifery and the Theory and Practice of Medicine; or, at least, all those which the counsellors shall from time to time specify as constituting a proper course of medical or surgical education. No person educated out of this commonwealth, shall be admitted to an examination either by the censors of the society, or of those of any district society, unless he have the qualifications specified in the first of the articles above mentioned, and, instead of those required in the second, shall have studied three full years under the direction, and attended the practice of some reputable physician or physicians, surgeon or surgeons, as the case may be. To promote the laudable design of the legislature in incorporating this society, to prevent, as far as may be, all unqualified persons from practising medicine or surgery, and in order to discourage empiricism and quackery, it shall be deemed disreputable, and shall be unlawful for any fellow of this society, in the capacity of physician or surgeon, to advise or consult with any person, who, having been a fellow of the society, shall be expelled therefrom; or with any person whatever, who shall hereafter commence the practice of medicine or surgery within this commonwealth, until he shall have been duly examined and approbated by the censors of the society, or by those of some district society, or shall have

received a degree of Bachelor or Doctor of Medicine at Harvard University; or, (in case he shall have been educated in, or come from some other state or foreign country,) shall have produced to the censors of the society, or those of the district wherein he resides, such evidence or testimonials of his qualifications for the practice of medicine or surgery, as they deem and certify to be sufficient to entitle him to the privileges of a physician or surgeon regularly introduced. And every fellow of the society who shall abet or assist any person not so qualified, by affording him assistance in the capacity of physician or surgeon, shall, for such offence, be disqualified from giving his vote at any meeting of the society, or of the district society whereof he is a member, for one year: shall be liable to the censure and reprimand of the counsellors, and, in aggravated cases, to expulsion. "If any fellow of the society shall *publicly advertise* for sale any medicine, the composition of which he keeps a secret, or shall, in like manner, offer to cure any disease by any such secret medicine, he shall be liable to expulsion, or such other penalty as the society, at their annual meeting, may think proper to inflict."

It is the duty of the counsellors, once in three years, to publish a list of the most approved books which should be read by medical students. The act of the legislature, in the year 1813, authorizes the organization of district societies by the counsellors, on application of any two members of the society. In 1810, the legislature extended their liberal patronage and encouragement to this society, by a grant of a township of Eastern land for its support, and they have exempted the fellows from serving in the militia, as a remuneration, in some degree, for their expense and exertions in promoting an institution of public interest and concern.\* By an act of the legislature, passed February 19th, 1819, it is provided, "That no person entering upon the practice of medicine or surgery after the first day of July, 1819, shall be entitled to the benefit of law, for the recovery of any debt or fee accruing from his professional services, unless he shall, previously to rendering those services, have been licensed by the censors of the society, or those of some district society, or shall have been graduated a Doctor of Medicine in Harvard University."

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\* The Presidents of the Massachusetts Medical Society, from the period of its first organization:—Edward A. Holyoke, M. D., 1782; William Kneeland, M. D., 1784; Edward A. Holyoke, M. D., 1786; Cotton Tufts, M. D., 1787; Samuel Danforth, M. D., 1795; Isaac Rand, M. D., 1798; John Warren, M. D., 1804; Joshua Fisher, M. D., 1815; John Brooks, M. D., 1823.

*Officers elected 1825 and 1826.*

*President*, James Jackson, M. D.

*Vice President*, Abraham Haskell, M. D.

*Corresponding Secretary*, John Dixwell, M. D.

*Recording Secretary*, John Gorham, M. D.

*Treasurer*, Jacob Bigelow, M. D.

*Librarian and Cabinet Keeper*, George Hayward, M. D.

The most salutary and beneficial effects have already resulted to the community from the association thus patronised by the government. By far the greater portion of respectable practitioners of medicine and surgery established in business in the commonwealth, are associated and cemented into one learned body, whose efforts are continually directed to the extension and increase of medical knowledge. Their united and individual influence is exerted in favor of a regular system of medical education, and in discountenancing those who undertake the important business of the profession, without being qualified for the great and serious duties it imposes. They are, moreover, in some respects alert and vigilant guardians of the public health and welfare, regarding with peculiar interest the occurrence of every epidemic, or other disease, which may assail the inhabitants of our country. The judicious measures adopted by the counsellors relative to the cowpox in 1808, and the spotted fever in 1810, have already been mentioned, and reference may be had to the society's communications for the detailed particulars of their valuable reports. At an early period of this institution (1790), the society published their first number of medical papers, containing a selection of important communications, and a third volume has now been published and distributed among the fellows of the society. In the second volume will be found a brilliant dissertation on the mercurial practice in febrile diseases, by John Warren, M. D., then president of the society.

We should not omit to mention that the Rev. Dr. Manasseh Cutler, of Hamilton, Massachusetts, presented to the Academy of Arts and Sciences, a valuable account of indigenous vegetables, the produce of New-England, botanically arranged. His collection is very numerous, and may be considered an honorable attestation of his indefatigable industry and zeal in the cause of botanical science, at a period when the subject was almost entirely neglected. This production was communicated to the Academy in the year 1784, and was published in their first volume. Many of the medical plants which Dr. Cutler first brought into notice, have been since introduced as valuable articles in our materia medica. He was respected for his dignified character as a divine, distinguished for piety, and learned in the sciences; he was elected an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and his fellow citizens elected him to represent his district in Congress, which station he filled with dignity and usefulness.

In the year 1808 the Massachusetts Medical Society appointed James Jackson, M. D. and John C. Warren, M. D. a committee to prepare a *Pharmacopœia* conformable to the modern chemical nomenclature, and designed to establish uniformity in the prescriptions of physicians, which was published by the society, and which was afterwards adopted by the Medical Society of New Hampshire for use in that state. This production was also adopted by the present author as the basis of "*The American New Dispensary*."

*tory*," which was approbated by a committee chosen by the society. This work has now gone through the fourth edition, and being an attempt to introduce many indigenous vegetables as articles of our materia medica, it is hoped may still be found useful among the practitioners of our country.

The New England Journal of Medicine and Surgery has been established in Boston since the year 1812. It is now entitled, The New England Medical Review and Journal; and is a work of superior merit and utility, which reflects great honor on the learned and indefatigable editors, and on the medical character of the metropolis of Massachusetts. The Medical Intelligencer is published in Boston, in the form of a weekly paper. The able editor is entitled to great praise for the judicious manner in which this useful publication is conducted.

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A. See page 22.

*Dr. Dalhonde's Deposition.*

"First. About twenty-five years ago, I was at Cremona, in Italy, in the French army, where there were thirteen soldiers upon whom this operation was performed, of which operation four died; six recovered with abundance of trouble and care, being seized with parotidal tumors and a large inflammation of the throat. One of them was opened; his diaphragm was found livid, the glands of the pancreas tumefied, and the caul gangrened. On the other three the operation had no effect. Secondly. In the year 1701, being in Flanders, there was committed to my care one Captain Hussart, taken ill of the smallpox, who told me in these very words: Ten years ago I was inoculated five or six times without that cursed invention taking effect upon me; must I then perish? He was so violently seized that he had several ulcers upon his body, especially one upon his arm, which occasioned a lameness there of through life. Thirdly. At the battle of Almanza, in Spain, the smallpox being in the army, two Muscovite soldiers had the operation performed upon them; one recovered, the other received no impression, but six weeks thereafter was seized with a frenzy, and swelled all over his body. They, not calling to mind that the operation had been performed upon him, believed that he had been poisoned. It was ordered by two of the King of Spain's physicians, that the body should be opened. His lungs were found ulcerated; from whence they concluded it was the effect of that corruption, which having infected the lymph did throw itself upon that vital part, which occasioned his sudden death. By me,

DR. LAWRENCE DALHONDE."

"*Boston, July 22d, 1721.*



"The foregoing is a true translation from the declaration made in French by Dr. Dalhonde, done at the instance and request of the Selectmen of the town of Boston. By WILLIAM DOUGLASS.

"*Jurat coram nobis.*

JOSEPH MARION.

"TIM. CLARK, } *Just. Pac.*  
"WM. WELSTED, }

In England the opposition to the new practice of inoculation, appears to have been even more virulent than in Boston. Dr. Wagstaffe, a man of high medical standing, invidiously remarked "that posterity will scarcely be brought to believe that an experiment, practised only by a few ignorant women, should so far obtain in one of the politest nations in the world, as to be received into the royal palace." One of their writers declared "this new practice to be founded in atheism, quackery and avarice, which push men to all the hellish practices imaginable; men murder fathers, mothers, relations and innocent children, and any that stand in the way of their wicked desires." But this declaration was exceeded by a singular sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Massey, on Sunday, July 8th, 1722, against "The Dangerous and Sinful Practice of Inoculation," in which he bestows upon the inoculators the most opprobrious epithets, as *diabolical sorcerers, hellish venefici, &c. &c.* His text was very appropriate: "*So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.*" The deluded preacher would have it understood that the *Devil was the first inoculator, and that poor Job was his first patient.\** Hence he terms inoculation "a diabolical operation, and an anti-providential project, that insults our religion, and banishes Providence out of the world." It was alleged by the friends of inoculation that the practice may be justified upon the principle of curing *natural*, by raising *artificial diseases*. "What is bleeding, but an artificial hæmorrhagy? purging, but raising an artificial diarrhœa? Are not blisters, issues and setons, artificial imposthumations?" To this it was replied, "Very good, sir; but go on: what is correction at the cart's tail, but the noble art of muscular phlebotomy? What is burning in the hand, but the art of applying a caustic? What is hanging, but an artificial quinsy, which makes the patient feel for the ground, and chokes him? What is breaking on the wheel, but the art of dislocations and fractures, and differs from the wounds and amputations of surgeons only by the manner and intention?"

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\* This conceit of the reverend divine gave rise to the following epigram, published in the Monthly Miscellany for March, 1774:

We're told by one of the black robe,  
The Devil inoculated *Job*.  
Suppose 'tis true, what he does tell,  
Pray, neighbors, did not *Job* do well?  
*Woodville on Inoculation.*

No instance of inoculation was known in Europe, until the daughter of Lady Mary W. Montague was inoculated by Mr. Maitland, her surgeon, in April, 1721 ; and the next was the son of Dr. Keith, on the 11th of May following. The Princess Caroline of Wales, having nearly lost one of her daughters, Princess Ann, by natural smallpox, became extremely solicitous to preserve her other children by means of inoculation ; but not satisfied of its safety and utility, she interceded with the king, her father, for the pardon of *six criminals*, that they might be the subjects of the experiment ; and they were inoculated at Newgate on the 9th of August, 1721. One of these, however, had the address to conceal the fact that he had previously undergone the smallpox. All of them recovered, and all escaped the halter. After this, a female convict was reprieved, and, variolous matter being introduced into her nostrils, she also escaped with a slight indisposition. But still more to confirm the confidence of the Princess of Wales in its safety, she directed, early in the spring of 1722, the experiment to be made first upon six, and afterwards upon five, charity children, in all of whom it was attended with the desired success. The princess now consulted the celebrated Sir Hans Sloane, the court physician, respecting the propriety and safety of inoculating her children. Sir Hans being cautious in his reply, the Princess inquired if it was his desire to dissuade her from it, and being answered in the negative, she said " then I am resolved it shall be done," and directed Sir Hans to wait on the king, George the First. His Majesty readily concurring, the Princesses Amelia and Caroline were, on the 19th of April, 1722, inoculated by Serjeant Surgeon Amy, and under the direction of Sir Hans Sloane. In the year 1724 inoculation was a second time introduced into the royal family. His royal Highness, Prince Frederick, aged 18 years, was inoculated by Mr. Maitland, at the court at Hanover, on the first of May, 1724 ; and his royal Highness, Prince William, was about the same time inoculated in London, by the king's Serjeant Surgeon Amy, and under the direction of the court physician, Sir Hans Sloane. Both of these princes went through the disease in the mildest manner, Prince Frederick having not more than from eleven to eighteen pustules. In the years 1721 and 1722, one hundred and eighty-two persons were inoculated ; and in 1723 two hundred and ninety-two were the subjects of the operation in England. But from June, 1721, to the first part of the year 1722, Dr. Boylston inoculated two hundred and forty-seven, and thirty-nine were inoculated by other persons in Boston and its vicinity.

The foregoing statement is compiled from Woodville's *History of Inoculation*, published 1796, and Moore's, published 1815.

## STATE OF MAINE.

THIS district of Massachusetts, before the separation, possessed little claim to the merit of contributing to the improvement of medical science ; a scattered settlement over an extensive country affords no facilities of union and enterprise in scientific pursuits. There were, however, some individuals who sustained the honor of the profession, and were eminently useful in their day. Among these Dr. Nathaniel Coffin (*b*), the elder, and Nathaniel Coffin, M. D. (*b*), of Portland, were for many years the leading characters in that district. Dr. Kinsman, of Portland, Dr. Jones, of North Yarmouth, and Dr. Benjamin Page (*b*), of Hallowell, were respectable and popular practitioners. Dr. Samuel Adams, of Bath, was for some time a surgeon in the American army ; he was a skilful physician, and an amiable and virtuous man, and in after life religion and piety were leading traits in his character. Dr. A. R. Mitchill (*b*), of North Yarmouth, was a man of great popularity as a physician, as well as for his useful services in political life, and his practical religious virtues. Dr. Thomas Rice, of Wiscasset, was much esteemed, and enjoyed extensive practice.

The epidemic termed spotted fever, made its appearance in 1810, and till 1816 prevailed at Hallowell and its vicinity with great severity. It fell to the lot of the present Dr. Benjamin Page, of Hallowell, to devote a large portion of his attention to the sick during the prevalence of this epidemic ; more than two thousand cases fell under his observation, and he is entitled to much honor and the gratitude of the public for his correct observation, his indefatigable industry, and his very judicious mode of treatment, by which the disease was divested in a great measure of its malignity and fatal tendency.\* In 1820 the *Medical School of Maine* was established at Brunswick, under the charter of Bowdoin college. This school has three professorships.

Parker Cleaveland, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica.*

Nathan Smith, M. D. *Lecturer on the Theory and Practice of Physic and Surgery.*

John D. Wells, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

There is a medical society of respectable standing in that state, of which the Hon. Daniel Coney was for several years the president. He yet survives, venerable in years and steadfast in moral rectitude and public virtue.

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\* See the American Modern Practice, new edition, p. 344.

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

IN this state many medical characters rendered their names conspicuous for professional knowledge at a period when public medical institutions were unknown in New England. The most meritorious of these were Joshua Brackett, M. D. (*b*), Dr. Josiah Bartlett (*b*), the two Drs. Cutter (*b*), Dr. Clement Jackson (*b*), Dr. Hall Jackson (*b*), and Samuel Tenney, M. D. (*b*). Since the establishment of the medical school at Hanover, it has honorably supported the medical character of the state, and has sent forth to public suffrage men of eminent attainments and signal usefulness. The *Medical School of Dartmouth College, at Hanover*, was founded by the enterprise of Dr. Nathan Smith, who in 1798 was appointed sole professor of the school, and for twelve years gave lectures on the different branches of medicine, except two courses, in which he was assisted in the department of chemistry. Present professors :—

Reuben D. Mussey, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy, Surgery and Obstetrics.*

Daniel Oliver, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Physiology.*

Benjamin Hale, A. M. *Professor of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Materia Medica.*

An infirmary has been instituted at Hanover, to which indigent patients may resort for surgical operations and medical attendance gratis ; and the medical class have the privilege of being present at the operations.

A medical society was incorporated by the legislature of the state in the year 1791, which now consists of about 160 fellows. They have adopted a system of laws and regulations similar to those of Massachusetts.

## STATE OF VERMONT.

A VERY limited knowledge only can be obtained respecting the medical character of Vermont. It is but recently that attempts were made to establish institutions for medical instruction ; but their zeal in the good cause has produced two establishments of that description, which now exist in the state. *Vermont Academy of Medicine*, established at Castleton in 1818.

William Tully, M. D. *President and Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Medical Jurisprudence.*

Theodore Woodward, M. D. *Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, Obstetrics, and Diseases of Women and Children.*

Alden March, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

Jonathan A. Allen, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy.*

Lewis C. Beck, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Natural History.*

Amos Eaton, Esq. (of Troy, N. Y.) *Professor of Natural Philosophy.*

*Medical School of Vermont*, organized at Burlington in 1822.

Henry S. Waterhouse, M. D. *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*

George W. Benedict, A. M. *Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Chemistry.*

John Bell, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

William Sweetser, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and of Materia Medica.*

## STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

MEDICAL science has received considerable patronage in this state from an early period of its history. The family of Bowen (*b*) has enjoyed for more than a century a wide spreading fame for their medical character, and for their patriotic virtues. The first of the name emigrated to that colony in 1640. John Bret, M. D. emigrated to this country and settled at Newport about 1740. He was a pupil of the much celebrated Dr. Boerhaave, and a graduate at the university of Leyden. He acquired great reputation in consequence of the extended fame of his preceptor. Thomas Moffat, M. D. a learned Scotch physician, arrived in this country and settled in Rhode-Island in 1750. He was often consulted in difficult cases, but was driven out of the country in 1772 on account of his political opinions. Dr. Thomas Rodman came over at the same time and settled at Newport. William Hunter, M. D. (*b*), a native of Scotland, was educated under the elder Monro at Edinburgh, came to Rhode-Island about the year 1752, and gave lectures on anatomy at Newport in the years 1754, 5, and 6, which have been considered the first lectures given on medical subjects in New England, if not in America.

The medical department of Brown University was organized at Providence in 1821.

Levi Wheaton, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Obstetrics.*

John DeWolf, A. M. *Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.*

Usher Parsons, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery.*

Solomon Drown, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

There is also in this state a respectable Medical Society, consisting of nearly all its regularly educated physicians.

In the years 1797, 1800 and 1805, the town of Providence was visited by the yellow fever, which was supposed to have been imported from the West Indies, and which occasioned very considerable mortality. On these occasions Dr. Pardon Bowen engaged with a laudable zeal and assiduity in the investigation of the subject, and in the most satisfactory manner traced the origin and progress of the deadly pestilence. His communications on the subject have been published in the 4th volume of the American Medical and Philosophical Register, by Professors Hosack and Francis of New-York.

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#### STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

AMONG the earliest settlers of Connecticut colony, was the Hon. John Winthrop, who in 1662 was made the first governor of the colony under the charter which he procured of Charles II. He was the eldest son of the first governor of Massachusetts, and was an eminent physician, and one of the founders of the Royal Society, being in England at the time as agent for the colony. He died 1676, aged 71. The Rev. Jared Elliot (*b*) was the next physician of distinction in the colony. He died 1763. The Rev. Phinehas Fisk was his contemporary and friend, and was particularly distinguished for the cure of epilepsy and insanity. Dr. John Ely was born at Lyme, 1743. He practised in Saybrook, and was the first physician who regularly practised inoculation for the smallpox in the state. He erected a hospital, where he pursued the business of inoculation for several years. The cool regimen for the smallpox, was generally practised there, successfully, earlier than in Europe. During the revolutionary war Dr. Ely was a colonel of a regiment, and was early made prisoner and carried to New-York; on account of his skilful services and attention bestowed on his fellow prisoners, he was suffered to remain in captivity three years for their benefit. He died in 1800, aged 63 years. Dr. Josiah Rose was a native of Wethersfield, and received his medical education under Dr. Dalhonde, of Boston, and for several years served as surgeon on board of a ship. He was considered as one of the ablest practitioners both in physic and surgery of his day. He had five sons who were educated to the profession, two of whom were surgeons of regiments during the war of independence. He died in 1786, aged 70 years. Dr. John Bird, of Litchfield, Dr. Perry, senior, of Wood-

bury, Dr. James Potter, of New Fairfield, Dr. William Jepson, of Hartford, were all prominent professional characters of the last century. Hon. John Bulkeley was born at Colchester in 1704. He was educated at Harvard college, and was afterwards instructed in the two professions of divinity and medicine. He was considered as a man of talents, and well versed in all the literature and science of the day ; and in law and politics, he was no less distinguished than in medicine. He sustained the various offices of colonel of the militia, member of the legislature, judge of the supreme court, and was one of the most popular characters in Connecticut. He died about the year 1754. Dr. John Simpson, Dr. John Noyes, Dr. John Watrous and Dr. John Rose, were all respectable surgeons in the American army, and in private life were held in estimation for professional merit and benevolence of character. Dr. Benjamin Gale (*b*) published a treatise about the year 1750, in which he advocated the utility of a course of mercury as a preparative for smallpox by inoculation, affirming that before that practice was adopted in 1745, one in a hundred of the inoculated died, while under the new method of treatment it proved fatal to one only in eight hundred. This production of Dr. Gale has been favorably noticed by European authors. (See his biography.) His life was protracted to advanced age, and was terminated in 1790.

In 1788, the Medical Society of the county of New Haven, published "Cases and Observations," a work which has been referred to by foreign authors, and gives a very favorable view of the practice in the state of Connecticut subsequently to the revolutionary war. The work on pestilence by Noah Webster, LL.D. affords evidence of uncommon industry and research, and contains a body of curious matter illustrating the history of epidemic and pestilential diseases. Silliman's Journal of Science is unquestionably the most distinguished work of the kind published in this country, and perhaps it is not surpassed in any other. Although the plan is not directly medical, it is an auxiliary containing many very valuable papers upon chemistry, botany, and various articles of the *materia medica*. The prevalent diseases of Connecticut are not essentially different from those of other parts of New England ; the yellow fever afflicted the city of New Haven in 1794, but it was supposed to have been of foreign origin. The same disease made its appearance in Middletown in the year 1820. But the malady which has been the most extensively formidable and destructive, is the epidemic which has received the exceptionable name of spotted fever, but to which Dr. Thomas Miner has given the more appropriate term, "Typhus Syncopalis." From 1807 to about 1816, this epidemic prevailed with its usual ravages ; and in 1822 and 1823, it reappeared to an extent almost unparalleled, but its fatal tendency was greatly subdued by the very judicious management of several accurate observers and experienced phy-

sicians. (See Dr. Thomas Miner's pamphlet on Typhus Syncopalis, and Dr. Woodward's communication in the New England Medical Review and Journal, Vol. I.)

With regard to medical improvement, it must be conceded that in Connecticut the field of science has been cultivated with great diligence and the happiest results. Numerous productions have emanated from that state, which evince talent, industry and research, and which have proved of signal utility. In 1810 Dr. Nathan Strong published a Dissertation on Spotted Fever, and in 1811 Dr. North published a Treatise on the same disease, and has since written and published in the periodicals a dissertation on the vitality of the blood. Henry Fish, M. D. was author of remarks on spotted fever. Drs. Monson, senior (*b*) and junior, wrote upon the yellow fever of New Haven in 1794. Joseph Comstock, M. D. is the author of a valuable Essay on Prognosis, and the compiler of an elementary chemical work, and Dr. Sumner is the compiler of an elementary system of botany. Thomas Moseley, M. D. was a respectable practitioner at East Haddam. He was for several years president of the Medical Society of Connecticut, and died about 1812, aged upwards of 80. Dr. Rockwell wrote on puerperal hemorrhage, and Drs. Woodward and Bestor wrote on spotted fever. Professor Smith, besides his treatise upon Typhus, has published in the periodical works of the day many interesting surgical and other cases, and has also written on bloodroot and other articles of the materia medica. The Hon. Sylvester Wells, M. D. published a series of valuable essays on the spotted fever of 1809; and William Buel, M. D. is the author of an able account of a disease that appeared in Sheffield. Dr. William Tully is author of an Essay on Pneumonia Typhoides, and other papers in the New-York Medical Museum; of an Essay upon Sanguinaria Canadensis, Strictures upon Orfila on Poisons in the New England Journal, and of an essay upon Scutellaria Lateriflora; he also wrote a paper on Secale Cornutum in Silliman's Journal. He has besides written upon the yellow fever as it appeared in Middletown in 1820; a work inferior, perhaps, to no other on that subject. In 1823 Dr. Thomas Miner and Dr. William Tully published "Essays upon Fevers and other medical subjects;" the first part by Dr. Miner and the second by Dr. Tully. This is to be considered as a work of superior merit, equally honorable to the authors and interesting to the profession, giving a correct view of the nature and treatment of febrile diseases. In 1825 Dr. Miner favored the public with his valuable account of Typhus Syncopalis. This pamphlet is the result of a long course of experience, and the most accurate observation; as proof of its acknowledged merit, it may be mentioned that it has passed through three editions, and a fourth will shortly appear. Dr. Miner is also a writer in the periodical works of the day, author of biographical sketches of several distinguished physicians of



Connecticut, occasional essays upon medical subjects and translations from French medical journals.

The science of chemistry, under the able supervision of Professor Silliman, and indigenous materia medica under Professor Ives, are, perhaps, at a higher standing at Yale College than at any other similar institution in the United States. But the establishment of a general hospital would be an important acquisition as an auxiliary to the advancement and interest of the different branches of medical science in that state. The Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, and the Retreat for the Insane, both established at Hartford, redound to the honor of the community, and are auspicious to the cause of humanity. Under the able treatment of Dr. Todd, the practice at the Retreat for the Insane has been attended, it is said, with an almost unparalleled success, more than ninety per cent. of all the recent cases having recovered.

The Medical Institution of Yale College was incorporated by the legislature in the year 1810. Lectures commenced in 1813, and are continued annually. Professors in 1825 :—

Eneas Monson, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes of Medicine.*

Nathan Smith, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, Surgery and Obstetrics.*

Benjamin Silliman, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry, Pharmacy, Mineralogy and Geology.*

Eli Ives, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany, and Lecturer on Diseases of Women and Children.*

Jonathan Knight, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, and Lecturer on Obstetrics.*

There is also in Connecticut an incorporated Medical Society of very respectable standing, and regulated by laws adopted by other similar societies.

In this brief sketch it may be proper to bring to recollection the Metallic Tractors invented by Dr. Elisha Perkins, which he announced to the public in the year 1796, as a new remedy for a variety of topical diseases. This singular remedy attained a considerable share of celebrity and ultimately excited a universal interest throughout the United States, and in various parts of Europe. A particular detail of the origin and progress of this discovery will be found in connexion with the biography of Dr. Perkins in this volume.

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## STATE OF NEW YORK.

This state has strong claims to pre-eminence in the noble pursuit of improvement in medical science and literature. Among the earliest physicians we find the names of Dr. Dupey, Dr. Du-

bois, and John Nicoll, M. D. The latter was a native of Scotland, who was graduated in medicine at the university of Edinburgh, and came to this country and settled in New York about the year 1700. He has been noticed as a successful practitioner, and was beloved for his private virtues. After having spent a life devoted to the work of benevolence and piety, he died in 1743, aged 63 years. Dr. Magraw, a physician of the Radcliffe school, emigrated to this country and settled in New York about 1740. In 1743 Cadwallader Colden, Esq. (*b*) Lieut. governor of the Province of New York, and a distinguished physician, communicated his thoughts on the probable method of curing a malignant fever, which occasioned great mortality in that city in 1741. He also published a treatise on the cure of cancer, and an essay on the virtues of the Great Water Dock, which introduced the learned author to the notice of the celebrated Linnæus. The same author published in 1753, some observations on an epidemic sore throat, which appeared in Massachusetts, and spread over great part of North America. Dr. John Bard (*b*), eminently distinguished as a practitioner in New York for more than fifty years, was the author of an interesting account of the malignant pleurisy, which prevailed at Long Island in the year 1749, besides some other medical papers. Dr. Ogden, of Long Island, about the year 1764, favored the public with valuable observations on the malignant sore throat, which then was prevalent and very mortal. Dr. Peter Middleton (*b*), a man of professional talents, was author of a medical discourse or historical inquiry into the ancient and present state of medicine, published in 1769. In the year 1750 the body of Hermanus Carroll, a criminal who had been executed for murder, was dissected in the city of New-York, by Dr. John Bard (*b*) and Dr. Peter Middleton (*b*), two of the most eminent physicians of that day, and the blood vessels were injected for the instruction of the young men then engaged in the study of medicine; this is the first essay made in the colonies for the purpose of imparting medical knowledge by dissection, of which we have any record.

In 1788 there occurred in the city of New York a popular tumult, commonly called the doctors' mob. This was in consequence of a suspicion that the physicians of the city had robbed the graveyards to procure subjects for dissection. The concourse assembled on this occasion was immense, and some of the mob having forced their way into the dissecting room, several human bodies were found in various states of mutilation; enraged at this discovery, they seized upon the fragments, as heads, legs and arms, and exposed them from the windows and doors to public view, with horrid imprecations. The rioters had now become so outrageous, that both the civil and military authorities were summoned to quell the tumult, and the medical students were confined in the common prison for security against the wild passions of the populace. The mob continued for two days, setting at defiance both

the civil and military authorities of the city, but was at length quelled without the loss of lives.

In the autumn of 1775 a surgical work entitled "Plain Remarks upon Wounds and Fractures," was published by Dr. John Jones (*b*) of New-York. This work was intended for the instruction of the young and inexperienced surgeons, who were about engaging in the American army. A work of this description was at that time of indispensable importance, and no one in America could be found so well qualified for the undertaking as Dr. Jones, who held the highest standing for knowledge and experience in the art of surgery. The advantages which the surgeons of the army derived from this valuable production, are incalculable. It passed through three editions, the latter of which, with notes and observations, was published in 1795; to this is prefixed a biographical memoir, by a very respectable pupil of the author, Dr. James Mease, of Philadelphia. It was not till 1768, that a medical establishment was effected and organized; in which were united the learning and abilities of Drs. Clossy (*b*), Bard (*b*), Jones (*b*), Middleton (*b*), Smith (*b*), and John V. B. Tennent, by whom lectures on the several branches were delivered. This school was connected with King's, now Columbia college, where in 1769, the degree of bachelor in medicine was conferred upon Samuel Kissam and Robert Tucker. "In 1770 the degree of doctor in medicine was conferred upon the last mentioned gentleman, and in May of the succeeding year, the same degree was conferred upon the former." These were the first instances of medical degrees being conferred in America, being a short time before those which were given at Philadelphia in the same year. Dr. Kissam's Inaugural dissertation on the anthelmintic property of cowhage, was published in May 1771, for the medical doctorate in King's college. The events of the revolutionary war deranged and frustrated in its infancy the immediate design of this promising establishment. In 1769 Dr. Samuel Bard (*b*) delivered a public address at the first medical graduation, in which he inculcated the necessity and utility of a public infirmary; and such was the influence of his memorable discourse, that, upon the same day on which it was delivered, a subscription was commenced by Sir Henry Moore, then governor of the Province, and the sum of eight hundred pounds sterling was collected for the establishment of a hospital; and, three hundred pounds being added by the corporation of the city, the foundation of the New-York hospital was laid in 1773. But, unfortunately, before the edifice was completed, it was destroyed by fire, and, the war intervening, it was not until January 1791, that it was rebuilt and in a proper condition to receive patients.

After the return of peace in 1783, various attempts were projected with the hope of reviving the medical school of New-York, but, from feuds and collisions among professional brethren, all ef-

forts directed to that effect resulted in disappointment. Courses of lectures, however, were delivered by many learned teachers, until a new organization of a medical school was effected by the trustees of Columbia college in 1792. Although the learned professors devoted themselves with commendable assiduity and faithfulness to their respective duties, from various causes the benefits arising from this school were very limited and unsatisfactory. The board of Regents, therefore, deemed it expedient to grant a charter establishing the present college of physicians and surgeons in March 1807. The incorporation of this institution was sanctioned by the Legislature, and gave very general satisfaction. It was soon discovered, however, that its successful progress was to be impeded by feuds and discontents arising from competition and rivalry between it and other medical schools in the same city. In April 1811, the Regents were induced to remodel the college of physicians and surgeons with a view to their union with the medical faculty of Columbia college. In 1813 this union was happily effected, and the venerable Samuel Bard, M. D. was placed at the head of the college as president. By this consolidation of the two medical schools the most eminent medical talents in the state were combined into one splendid seminary, under the general superintendence of the board of regents, aided by the patronage and liberal endowments of the legislature.\* In 1816 the regents made the following report to the legislature: "The college of physicians and surgeons in the city of New-York, is advancing to that celebrity, which must soon place it at the head of similar institutions in the United States. Perhaps no place can afford greater opportunities for giving medical instruction to the best advantage, on all the variety of cases in which the human frame is liable to disease, and where more opportunities are daily offered to exhibit them to the inspection, and for the instruction of students. It is, therefore, the decided opinion of the regents, that this institution should receive the undivided support of the state: and that no other should be countenanced, which, by a spirit of rivalry or hostility, might, in any degree, succeed in repressing its justly deserved and increasing reputation as a medical school." The most sanguine expectations were entertained respecting the utility of the institution thus reorganised, and the result of a few years experience, clearly evinced that the learned professors filled the important stations assigned them, with ability and success. The number of medical pupils in 1815, was one hundred and seventy-one, and the number of graduates was twenty-seven, greatly exceeding the number attending at any prior session. The author of a historical sketch of the present institution, concludes his observations in the following words: "When the advantages which

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\* The legislature in 1808, made the liberal grant of \$20,000 for the benefit of the medical college.

New-York possesses for a great medical establishment, are considered, advantages arising from its natural situation, its extensive population, now nearly equal to most of the capitals of Europe, its large and well endowed hospital, and other public charities, its botanical garden, its well organized medical college, and the extensive system of education which it embraces; and when it is further considered, that these advantages are increased by the munificent patronage of the state, it is not too much to say that, in the means of instruction, the College of Physicians and Surgeons is second to no similar institution in the United States. The college opens annually, on the first Monday in November, and the several courses begin, successively, that week, after the introductory lecture of the respective professors. The session closes on the last day of February.

For a period of about seven years subsequent to the union of the two schools, the College of Physicians and Surgeons, whose weight of character was sustained by the most able teachers which the state could produce, was on the march to the highest degree of eminence, and its reputation was recognised in every portion of the union. The class of students consisted of two hundred, and the number was increasing with the opening of each session. But from some cause those professors, whose talents and zeal had been universally acknowledged, were assailed with clamorous accusations, and charges of serious import were arrayed against them: these, however, on investigation by the regents in March, 1825, were declared to be unsubstantiated, and were pronounced by that honorable body, in their elaborate Report, to have arisen from jealousy and professional rivalry. Broils and contention, nevertheless, continued, and the opposition assisted systematically in their purpose. In April, 1826, the professors, wearied with unavailing attempts to silence the opposition, came to the conclusion that "it would best consist with their own self respect" to withdraw altogether from the institution, and accordingly they tendered their resignations of their professorships and offices. The board of regents accepted their resignations, April 17, 1826, and presented their thanks "for the faithful and able manner in which they had filled their respective chairs as instructors and lecturers in the said college." The Professors were,

David Hosack, M. D. *Vice President, and Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Clinical Medicine.*

William James Macneven, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

Samuel L. Mitchell, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

Valentine Mott, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

John W. Francis, M. D. *Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, and Registrar of the College.*

Wright Post, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy.* (Had given in his resignation before.)

The places of the above professors were filled as follows. College of Physicians and Surgeons :—

John Augustine Smith, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

Alexander H. Stevens, M. D. *Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery.*

James F. Dana, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.* (Since dead.)

Joseph M. Smith, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Clinical Medicine.*

Edward Delafield, M. D. *Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.*

John B. Beck, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District of the state of New York, was incorporated by the Regents of the University in 1812, and the legislature made a grant of \$15,000. It is located in the town of Fairfield, Herkimer county.

Joseph White, M. D. *President, and Professor of Surgery.*

Westel Willoughby, M. D. *Vice-President, and Professor of Obstetrics.*

James Hadley, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica.*

T. Romeyn Beck, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Medical Jurisprudence.*

James McNaughton, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

Medical School of Auburn, at Auburn :

James Douglass, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

Pliny Hays, M. D. *Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery.*

E. D. Tuttle, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic.*

S. Mosher, M. D. *Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children.*

Jedediah Smith, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica.*

The following gentlemen were practitioners of considerable merit in the city of New-York since the American war, and their names are deserving of commemoration.

Dr. Malachi Treat was a surgeon in the hospital department during the whole of the American struggle for independence, and part of the time officiated as deputy director of the hospital. He died in New-York of the yellow fever. Dr. William Pitt Smith was a pupil of Dr. Treat, and was also in the hospital department

during the war, and he also fell a victim to the yellow fever in 1797. Ebenezer Crosby, M. D. was a native of Braintree, Massachusetts, was graduated at Harvard University in 1777, and completed his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Crosby was at an early period of the war appointed surgeon to General Washington's guard, and was received into his military family, in which he continued until near the close of the war. On the return of peace he took his residence in New-York, where he soon acquired a respectable circle of practice, and in the year 1785 was chosen Professor of Midwifery in Columbia College, which appointment he retained until his death, which occurred 16th July, 1788. Dr. Amasa Dingly was a native of Marshfield, Massachusetts, and was graduated at Harvard University in 1785. He settled in New-York, where he displayed abilities and a spirit of enterprise which would have raised him to eminence had his life been protracted. Benjamin DeWitt, M. D. merits great praise for the services which he rendered to the college, more particularly in obtaining the liberal grant from the state of \$30,000. He was prematurely cut off by the yellow fever while in the discharge of his official duties of physician of the port of New-York, in 1819. He published on the *Datura Stramonium*, and a paper on the salt works of Onondaga. "Richard Bayley, M. D. (b) was among the most eminent of the physicians of his time, and equally distinguished in medical and surgical practice; after a life of great activity and usefulness, he died of yellow fever, which he contracted in the discharge of his official duties as health officer of the port of New-York, in August, 1801, aged 56 years. His medical writings are, his letter on Croup, addressed to his preceptor, Dr. Hunter of London, and his account of the epidemic fever of New-York in 1795. They are sufficient evidence of his talents: his wide and disinterested benevolence is remembered by thousands." John V. B. Tennent, M. D. completed his medical education in Europe. While in London, in 1765, he was created a member of the Royal Society. His course of instruction in obstetrics was able and satisfactory, and laid a foundation for improvement in that branch in the Medical School of New-York. He died at an early age of the yellow fever, in the West Indies, whither he had gone for the benefit of his health.

The prevailing diseases of the state of New-York are of a similar character with those in the New-England states, but it has had a large share of the epidemics of our country. In the city of New-York consumption has also been very prevalent and fatal. The yellow fever has been known to prevail in that city at various periods during the last century. The same pestilence has revisited that city and Long-Island in 1798, 1803, 4, 5, 9, and 1822; at some seasons its course has been marked with great mortality. The year 1798 was most fatal to the faculty, more than twenty

physicians of the city becoming its victims within three months. The legislature and citizens have been liberal in the establishment of Hospitals, Infirmarys, Dispensaries, and other humane and charitable institutions, for the relief of the poor and destitute, for the insane, and for the deaf and dumb. The Cowpock Institution was established in New-York in January, 1802, for the purpose of substituting vaccination for the smallpox, more particularly among the poor, and for preserving a constant supply of genuine matter. The first physician appointed to vaccinate for the Dispensary was Dr. Valentine Seaman. According to the annual report, dated January, 1826, no less than 1223 patients enjoyed the advantage of the city Dispensary, besides those who had received vaccination gratis. In the year 1808 the number of patients who enjoyed the advantage of the Dispensary was 1340 : in 1811 the number was 1446 : the trustees also stated that in addition to these patients, 1016 had been vaccinated at their office since the first of January, 1811, gratis, and that in every instance the cowpock has proved a perfect security against the smallpox.

The state of New-York has furnished a full portion of learned and scientific professors, lecturers and teachers, by whose labors medical literature and science have flourished, and been extensively diffused. From this source, also, medical and philosophical works of sterling worth have emanated, which have received approbation and applause in various foreign countries. The periodical journals on medicine and the collateral branches of science, which have appeared in New-York at different times, have been the following:—The Medical Repository, first projected in 1798, and the earliest journal which was issued in this country in this department of learning ; its editors were Drs. Mitchell, Miller and Smith. It has been extended to twenty-three volumes by subsequent editors. The New-York Medical and Philosophical Journal, commenced in 1809, and published anonymously—3 volumes. The Medical Magazine, by Drs. Mott and Underdonk ; it terminated with the publication of one volume. The American Medical and Philosophical Register, edited by Drs. Hosack and Francis ; it began in 1810, and was terminated in 1814. The four volumes which it embraced are composed exclusively of original materials ; and these can safely be referred to for many papers of great value on medical and surgical subjects, as well as for biographical memoirs of American physicians, and detailed accounts of most of the public and literary associations for which New-York is so much distinguished. The last periodical, which still exists, is the New-York Medical and Philosophical Journal ; it was begun in 1822, by Professor Francis and Drs. Dychman, and Beck ; a volume appears annually. The transactions of the New-York Literary and Philosophical Society contain various papers on medical subjects, and the collections of the New-York Historical Society may be referred to for similar topics.



It may not be irrelative in this account, before we part with New-York, to state that this city holds no inconsiderable rank, as having been the place where most of the prominent operations of American surgery have been first performed. Dr. McKnight's operation for extra-uterine conception, is well known. Hydrocele, treated after the manner revived by Sir James Earle, and the operation for femoral aneurism, though, in the present state of surgical science they do not afford any particular novel principles, were carried into successful results by Professor Hosack, then of Columbia College, so long ago as 1795, and in 1807. In 1812 Professor Post tied the common carotid for aneurism successfully ; it was the first operation on this artery for aneurism that had been performed in this country. In 1817 Professor Post tied successfully the subclavian artery above the clavicle, external to the scaleni muscles, for a brachial aneurism. This is the first successful operation of this character ever performed. The first ligature upon the arteria innominata of a human being was applied by Professor Mott, then of the University of New-York, for an aneurism of the right subclavian artery. It was performed in May, 1818. In November, 1821, Dr. Mott performed his first operation upon the lower jaw, for osteosarcoma of that bone. Nearly half of the lower jawbone was successfully removed. He has subsequently operated upon three other cases ; in one the jaw was removed at the articulation and sawed through on the opposite side, after extracting the first bicuspid tooth. Three out of the four patients recovered. Professor Mott was not aware that the operation on the lower jaw had ever been performed before that by himself. For a similar disease of the upper jaw, Dr. Mott has operated seven times. In October, 1824, he successfully amputated at the hip joint, for a necrosis of the femur. The same surgeon has also tied the carotid artery six times ; the external iliac three times ; the femoral artery fifteen times. But, as if further to add to the surgical renown of New-York, the same eminent operator has lately tied the common iliac near the aorta for an aneurism of the external iliac, March, 1827. This is the first operation ever performed upon the primitive iliac for aneurism ; it was completely successful. These displays of surgical science are worthy of the highest praise, and with those of Physick, Gibson, and Dorsey of Philadelphia, and Warren of Boston, present essays worthy of the profoundest study of our American youth.

In practical medicine, New-York has also done her part. On the vexed subject of yellow fever, her authors have furnished many valuable papers ; and the treatment of the disorder by them seems to be more rational and better defined than by those who have so vehemently contended for the lancet and mercury. That after the disorder has affected the human system, the constitution is rarely affected a second time with the complaint, is now generally thought to be the fact. This interesting feature in the nature of the disease, was first promulgated in the United States by Pro-

fessor J. W. Francis, in his letter on Contagion, dated at London in June, 1816, and has been confirmed by numerous observers in various sections of the country. Tracheotomy has several times been successfully performed for the removal of foreign substance from the windpipe by Dr. Mott; and though, as it is believed, not yet in croup, still in the membranous or fatal stage as it is generally called, the *vitriolic* emetics (white and blue,) have restored the little sufferer when every other hope has been abandoned. For this novel and felicitous principle in practice in this truly alarming complaint, the public are also indebted to Dr. Francis, who has published several successful cases. The monographs of Bayley and of Middleton, on Croup, ought not to be omitted in this cursory enumeration.

The present section of our history of medical affairs in New-York, would hardly be deemed satisfactory, without a few particulars concerning that extensive charity, the New-York Hospital, and the Bloomingdale Asylum for the treatment of the Insane. Both these extensive institutions have been most amply endowed by legislative munificence, and are directed by the governors of the New-York Hospital.

The ground on which the hospital stands, is an area of about four hundred and fifty-five feet in length, and four hundred and forty in breadth, bounded in front on Broadway, and near the City Hall. The principal building, denominated the Hospital, is of grey stone and of the Doric order: in front one hundred and twenty-four feet; fifty feet deep in the centre and eighty-six feet deep in the wings, which project on each side. It consists of three stories above the basement: the height above the ground is fifty-two feet. In the third story, looking to the northwest, is the theatre for surgical operations, fitted up so as to accommodate about two hundred persons. The building contains sixteen wards, thirty-six feet long and twenty-four feet broad, in which about three hundred persons may be accommodated. On the southerly section of the grounds is another large and commodious edifice, ninety feet long, forty feet deep in the centre and sixty-five feet deep in the wings, which project twelve and a half feet on each side. The hospital is furnished with a most valuable and extensive library on medical science and the collateral branches, particularly on botany. It has a kitchen garden, ice houses, a bathing house, and convenient stables. From the last printed report of this Institution for, 1826 we gather the following facts:

Remaining in the hospital, December 31, 1825, pay patients	
including U. S. seamen	110
Paupers	55
Admitted during 1826, of the first order	1097
of the second	676
	<hr/>
	1938

Of these 1284 are reported to have been discharged cured ;—relieved 123 ; discharged by request 72 ; improper objects 25 ; disorderly and eloped 22 ; died 198. Of the whole, 1177 were natives of America.

*The Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane.*—In the month of April, 1815, the late Thomas Eddy submitted to the governors of the Hospital a small tract entitled "Hints for introducing an improved mode of treating the Insane in the Asylum." This communication met with a favorable reception, and the benevolent plans of the distinguished projector were carried into effect with all practicable facility. "It would be," says Mr. E. "an undertaking singularly interesting and instructive, to trace the different methods of cure which have been pursued in different ages, in the treatment of those laboring under mental derangement ; and to mark the various results with which they have been attended. The radical defect in all the different modes of cure that have been pursued, appears to be, that of considering mania a physical or bodily disease, and adopting for its removal merely physical remedies. Very lately, however, a spirit of inquiry has been excited, which has given birth to a new system of treatment of the insane ; and former modes of medical discipline have now given place to that which is generally denominated moral management."

It is almost superfluous to state the plan of the Retreat at York, in England ; the successful issue of that benevolent establishment, as made known to the world by Mr. Tuke's publication, fortified the patrons of the New-York Asylum in their enlarged and enlightened views. The legislature of New-York were not reluctant in countenancing the undertaking, and in April 1816, passed a munificent act appropriating the yearly sum of ten thousand dollars for forty-one years, to enable the governors to erect further and more extensive accommodations for insane patients. Accordingly a purchase was made of a suitable location about seven miles from the city of New-York, near the Hudson river, and fronting on the Bloomingdale road : the whole quantity of ground is stated to be somewhat over seventy-seven acres. It is remarkably dry and pleasant, and from its elevated situation affords an extensive and delightful view of the East and Hudson rivers and the adjacent country for an area of nearly forty miles. The plan of the edifice adopted was that of Thomas C. Taylor ; it comprehends a centre building which is two hundred and eleven feet in length and sixty feet deep, with two wings, each placed at the distance of fifty feet from the principal building and connected with it by a colonnade. Each wing is one hundred and ninety-four feet in length and fifty feet deep. The middle or principal centre building is calculated to accommodate about two hundred patients. It would require many pages to notice the various accommodations and advantages which this great institution possesses, and it is to be hoped that an ample publication of such a nature will not much longer be with-

held from the public. The state, in her patronage to this Asylum, has added to her renown for public works, great as it has previously been, and the names of Clinton, Clarkson and Eddy, will be cherished with the most lively and lasting gratitude by every friend of afflicted humanity. The following is an abstract of the report of this Institution for 1826. During the above period, admitted, males 97—females 45; total 142: of these the recent cases were 93—old 49. Recovered, including males and females, 56: much improved, 6: improved, 5: discharged by request, 9. Died, all of them of the old cases, 6.—The forms of the diseases were mania, 63: monomania, 28; delirium a potu, 35; dementia, 15; idiotism, 1. Total 142.

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### STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

WE are destitute of materials for the medical history of this state. It is, however, well known that medical men of distinguished character have flourished in it during the last century; memoirs of some of the most meritorious have been procured and are inserted in this volume. A medical school, connected with Rutgers College in New-Brunswick, has recently been instituted, and is conducted by professors of exalted character for scientific attainments,\* a majority of whom lately formed the Faculty of medicine in the University of New-York.

#### *Officers of the College.*

David Hosack, M. D. F. R. S. *President of the Medical Faculty.*

Samuel L. Mitchell, M. D. LL.D. *Vice President.*

Peter Townsend, M. D. *Registrar.*

#### *Professors.*

David Hosack, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Physic and Clinical Medicine.*

William James Macneven, M. D. *Professor of Therapeutics and Materia Medica.*

Valentine Mott, M. D. *Professor of Obstetrics and Forensic Medicine.*

John D. Godman, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

John Griscom, LL.D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

The several courses of instruction commence on the first Monday in November, and terminate on the last day of February, an-

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\* Rutgers' College, originally called Queen's College, was founded in the year 1770. In that year the Dutch Reformed Church of New-York and New-Jersey, then united and formed the plan of erecting a college in New-Brunswick, for the purpose of preparing young men for the gospel ministry, and obtained a charter from the legislature of New-Jersey.

nually. "Colonel Henry Rutgers, of New-Jersey, has established in perpetuity the premium of a gold medal, to be awarded annually to the student of that institution, who shall exhibit the most satisfactory testimonial of talent and attainment in medical science, in his inaugural dissertation for the doctorate; the same to be approved by the board of professors, and the decision to rest with them. The honor to be delivered to the successful candidate at the public commencement." A silver medal has also been proposed by the liberality of a distinguished citizen of New-York, to be awarded to the author of the approved dissertation on some subject connected with the indigenous diseases and topography of the country. These incentives to exertion cannot but produce the most salutary emulation among the students of the newly organized school. During the first session of this school in the winter of 1826-7, the total number of students attending the several classes, was one hundred and fifty-three. At the medical graduation, held in July, 1827, twenty-nine students of the institution received the honors of the doctorate.

The location of the Rutgers Medical College is in the city of New-York. It is situated in Duane Street, near Broadway, in the immediate vicinity of the New-York Hospital. It was erected by the medical faculty at their own expense expressly for the accommodation of students of medicine. It is admitted by all that this building combines with the necessary spaciousness, a degree of neatness, convenience and comfort, very rarely found in similar establishments. The lecture rooms are three in number. The chemical room is on the lower floor, and is provided with necessary furnaces and fixtures. Adjoining the laboratory is the room for the mineralogical cabinet and such philosophical apparatus as is employed in pneumatics, hydrostatics, and other departments of science connected with chemistry. The hall for the lectures on the practice of physic, materia medica, botany, and obstetrics and forensic medicine, is on the second floor. This hall is also designed for the delivering of introductory lectures and for public collegiate exercises. The library room is on the same floor with the hall. The surgical and anatomical amphitheatre is on the third floor. The saloon of practical anatomy on the fourth floor, is unrivalled in this country for its extent and the entire convenience of its arrangements. This apartment is of the length and width of the whole building, and is during the day lighted by a fine skylight and four windows. At night it is brilliantly illuminated by ten large gas burners, which entirely obviate the necessity of using table-lamps. The cistern of water is supplied by means of a forcing pump in the basement. A furnace of appropriate construction is employed for the daily removal of fragments usually allowed to accumulate in and about anatomical apartments. The use of this furnace and the regular attention paid to the tables, remove from the study of practical anatomy all the circumstances usually pro-

ductive of disgust. An angle of the saloon is screened off for the accommodation of practitioners of medicine, who may wish to revise their anatomical studies free from interruption. The anatomical cabinet is rich and valuable. The collection of the professor of surgery is so in an especial degree, on account of its being principally composed of morbid specimens, removed by himself in his operations, or procured from subjects with whose previous history he is acquainted. Collections to a valuable extent are forming by the professor of the materia medica; and the illustrations, casts and preparations for obstetrical knowledge, are constantly augmenting. The whole of this college is furnished with gas lights, and warmed by a single fire burned in the basement, from which heated air is conveyed by flues to all parts of the house. The arrangement is so effectual that but a few minutes are necessary to the production of a summer temperature even in the coldest winter. The heated air flows from below the seats in the different lecture rooms, so that they are equally warmed throughout.

The school is abundantly supplied with the material necessary for practical anatomy at a very moderate expense, and the students enjoy the opportunity of witnessing the extensive surgical and medical practice of the New-York Hospital. The qualifications of candidates for the doctorate are similar to those of the New-York College, and the graduates are vested with the usual powers to practise. The candidate must have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and have studied medicine three years under the direction of a regular practitioner; during this period he must have attended two full courses of lectures at the college, or one full course in another and one full course in Rutgers College. The examination takes place immediately after the close of the lectures.

The Medical Society of the state of New-Jersey for the regulation of the practice of physic and surgery, was incorporated in 1783, and is governed by provisions similar to those of the society of Massachusetts. There are also three district medical societies.

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## STATE OF DELAWARE.

In this state have originated men of professional talents and profound erudition. To Dr. James Tilton (*b*) our country is greatly indebted for important services in the line of his profession during both the former and the latter war with Great Britain. Dr. Sykes (*b*) was eminently distinguished. Dr. Joshua Clayton was governor of the state, and a member of the United States senate; he died in 1799. During the war of Independence, from the great scarcity of the Peruvian bark, Dr. Clayton found an eligible substitute in the bark of the root of dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and

the inside bark of the white oak tree, combined in equal parts. This proved equally efficacious in all those cases in which the Peruvian bark is usually employed. In this state a respectable medical society is established, and the professional character honorably supported ; but its vicinity to wealthy and populous cities renders the establishment of medical schools altogether unnecessary.

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### STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

It appears that in the latter part of the 17th and early part of the 18th century, many learned and enterprising medical men emigrated from Europe, and established themselves in Pennsylvania and the more southern provinces. Thomas Wynn, an eminent Welsh physician, who practised medicine several years with high reputation in London, and his brother, came to this country in 1682 with the original settlers, located themselves in Philadelphia, and were the earliest physicians of that city. These gentlemen were followed by a succession of regular and well educated professional men. Dr. Griffith Owen arrived in the prime of life, and is said to have done the principal medical business in the city of Philadelphia, where he was highly distinguished for his talents, integrity and zeal. He died in 1717, about the age of 70 years, and left a son who practised in Philadelphia some time after his father's death. Dr. Græme came from Great Britain with the governor, Sir William Keith, in the year 1717. He was about 30 years of age when he arrived, had an excellent education and agreeable manners, and was therefore much employed as a practitioner, and greatly confided in by his fellow citizens. Dr. Lloyd Zachary probably commenced the practice of medicine in Philadelphia between 1720 and 1730, and died in the year 1756 in the meridian of life, greatly and most deservedly lamented. He was one of the founders of, and a very liberal contributor to, both the college and the hospital. Dr. Kearsly sen. was for many years a very industrious practitioner both in medicine and surgery. He was not deficient in public spirit. The public are more indebted to him than to any other man for that respectable edifice, Christ Church; and by will he founded and endowed a hospital for poor widows. He educated Dr John Redman and Dr. John Bard, of New-York. Foibles are common to humanity, and we often find them blended with the most splendid virtues in the human character. Dr. Kearsly possessed a morose and churlish temper, which banished all cheerfulness and social converse from his pupils, and rendered him an unpleasant companion. Dr. Cadwallader Evans (*b*) was one of the first pupils of Dr. Thomas Bond, and completed his medical education in England. He was descended from a much venerated early settler, and had a great share of public spi-

rit, as well as of professional worth. In 1769 some observations appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of London, from Dr. John Kearsly, jun. of Philadelphia, relative to angina maligna, which prevailed in 1746 and 1760. "It extended," says the author, "through the neighboring provinces with mortal rage, in opposition to the united endeavors of the faculty. It swept off all before it, baffling every attempt to stop its progress, and seemed by its dire effects to be more like the drawn sword of vengeance to stop the growth of the colonies, than the natural progress of disease. Villages were almost depopulated, and numerous parents were left to bewail the loss of their tender offspring." An essay on the iliac passion by Dr. Thomas Cadwallader (*b*), a respectable physician in Philadelphia, appeared in the year 1740, in which the author opposes with considerable talent and learning the then common mode of treating that disease. This was one of the earliest publications on a medical subject in America. Dr. Thomas Bond (*b*), about 1754, was author of some useful medical memoirs, which were published in a periodical work in London. Phineas Bond, M. D. (*b*), a younger brother of Thomas Bond, after studying medicine some time in Maryland, visited Europe, and passed a considerable time at the medical schools of Leyden, Paris, London and Edinburgh; on his return he settled in Philadelphia, where he enjoyed a high reputation for many years. He was one of the founders of the College, now the University of Pennsylvania. About the middle of the 18th century Dr. Adam Thompson, of Pennsylvania, or Maryland, published a discourse on the preparation of the body for the reception of the inoculated smallpox, and the manner of receiving the infection, as it was delivered in the public hall of the academy before the trustees and others, in November, 1750. This production was highly applauded both in America and Europe, as at that period the practice of inoculation was on the decline. The author states that inoculation was so unsuccessful at Philadelphia, that many were disposed to abandon the practice; wherefore, upon the suggestion of the 1392d aphorism of Boerhaave,\* he was led to prepare his patients by a composition of antimony and mercury, which he had constantly employed for twelve years with uninterrupted success.

As connected with medical science, it might appear improper to omit the distinguished name of John Bartram, Esq. to whom our country is so greatly indebted for improvements in natural history and botany. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1701. His grandfather of the same name accompanied William Penn to this country in 1682. This self-taught genius early discovered a great thirst for the acquisition of knowledge, and especially of botanical know-

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\* Boerhaave's 1392d aphorism:—"Some success from antimony and mercury prompts us to seek for a specific for the smallpox in a combination of these minerals reduced by art to an active, but not to an acrimonious or corrosive state."



ledge. He travelled in pursuit of it, with unwearied diligence, in various parts of his native country from Canada to Florida, and made such proficiency in the study that Linnæus is said to have pronounced him the "greatest natural botanist in the world." He corresponded with many of the most distinguished men of science, both in America and in Europe. He was elected a member of several of the most eminent societies and academies abroad, and was, at length, appointed botanist to his Britannic Majesty George III. He died in 1777, in the 76 year of his age. Mr. Bartram was the first native American who conceived and carried into effect the plan of a botanical garden for the reception and cultivation of indigenous as well as exotic plants, and of travelling for the purpose of accomplishing this plan. He purchased a situation on the banks of the Schuylkill, and enriched it with every variety of the most curious and beautiful vegetables, collected in his excursions, which his sons have since continued to cultivate.

It was reserved for the accomplished Dr. William Shippen (*b*) and Dr. John Morgan (*b*), to construct a permanent foundation for the medical institutions of our country. Both these gentlemen were natives of Philadelphia, and after receiving the usual preparatory course of instruction, repaired to Europe to complete a scientific education. Here they enjoyed ample means of qualifying themselves for the great duties of professors and teachers, and while in Europe they concerted the plan of establishing a medical school in their native city. Accordingly in 1762 Dr. Shippen commenced a course of lectures on anatomy and midwifery, accompanied by dissections, to a class of ten students, and this was the first systematic course of lectures on medical subjects ever delivered in America, if we except those delivered at Newport in 1756, by Dr. Hunter. In 1765 Dr. Morgan returned from Europe and was appointed Professor of the Institutes of Medicine, and Dr. Shippen the Professor of Anatomy; and they were the only professors of this new institution until 1768, when Dr. Kuhn (*b*) was elected Professor of Botany, and in the following year Dr. Benjamin Rush (*b*) was chosen Professor of Chemistry. These learned characters, assisted by the venerable Thomas Bond (*b*) as lecturer on Clinical Medicine, zealously devoted their talents to the duties of the several departments of medical instruction. This first Medical School in the American colonies, was soon after confirmed and established by the authority of the trustees of the College of Philadelphia, while Dr. Franklin officiated as their president. The science of medicine was unfortunately deprived of the benefits and improvements expected from this honorable association, by various circumstances connected with the revolutionary war. The Philadelphia Dispensary for the medical relief of the poor, the first institution of its kind in the United States, was founded in 1786. The College of Physicians of Phila-

delphia, was established in 1787, and the labors of the Professors commenced under circumstances eminently auspicious to the improvement of medical science ; an unfortunate competition and discord, however, between the medical college and an opposition school, for a time marred their prospects, and impeded that useful progress which the friends of the institution and the public had confidently expected. But in 1791 some important changes took place, an harmonious union of the contending parties was effected, and Dr. Rush was appointed Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Physic and of Clinical Medicine. From this period, the progress and improvement of the institution have been no less honorable to the venerable founders, than beneficial to the community. The commanding talents and profound erudition of Professors Rush (*b*), Barton (*b*), Physick (*b*), Dorsey (*b*), Chapman and others, have given the Medical School of Philadelphia a celebrity, which will probably long remain unrivalled in the United States, and will enable it to vie with the most elevated seminaries of the European world. It has become the resort of students from every section of our united confederacy. Five hundred in some seasons have attended the various courses of lectures, and the inaugural dissertations of those who from time to time have received its honors, have extended the fame of the school from which they emanated. At the commencement in June, 1771, the degree of A. B. was conferred on seven, and the degree of M. D. on four candidates. Such has been the prosperity of this medical institution, first founded in our country, that from the most accurate calculation that can be made, it is computed that, between 7 and 8000 young men have received instruction within its walls since its first establishment, and from this source the remotest parts of our union have been furnished with learned physicians who are ornaments to their profession. During the four months attendance on the lectures, the class expend not less than \$200,000 in the city of Philadelphia. The present faculty :—

Philip Syng Physick, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy.*

John Redman Coxe, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy.*

Nathaniel Chapman, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Practice.*

Thomas C. James, M. D. *Professor of Midwifery.*

Robert Hare, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

William Gibson, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

William C. Horner, M. D. *Adjunct Professor of Anatomy.*

It is ascertained by historical records, that the yellow fever made its appearance in the city of Philadelphia in 1699 and 1740, and that the same malady again visited that city, New-York and some other parts of North America, in the years 1744, 1747,

1760, and 1762: at the last mentioned period it was attended with such malignity as baffled the skill of the most experienced physicians. The medical characters of those times, as well as the public generally, considered the disease to be contagious, and imported from the West Indies. But the city of Philadelphia was afflicted with a dreadful visitation of the yellow fever in 1793, which is to be regarded as a memorable event in the history of the United States. Such was the magnitude of this awful calamity, as to excite in the breasts of all classes of people the keenest emotions of sympathy and commiseration. The city was abandoned by a large proportion of its inhabitants, and those who remained were not sufficient to administer comfort to the sick and to bury the dead. It was not uncommon for persons to expire alone in a house, and without a human being to witness the awful scene. A negro leading a horse and hearse was to be seen in every street, and at almost every hour. If a solitary passenger was met, his gloom and ghastly visage proclaimed the horrors of his soul, as if conscious that with every breath is mingled the sting of death. No less than four thousand and forty-four persons fell victims to this destructive epidemic in that ill fated city, between the first of August and ninth of October.\*

The same pestilential fever has at several subsequent periods been permitted to ravage that and almost all the cities and seaport towns in the United States. The alarm and distress which pervaded our cities on these melancholy occasions, were inexpressible. The nature, origin and propagation of this formidable disease, became the topics of interesting inquiry and universal concern. The investigation was pursued by many of our most distinguished medical philosophers with commendable zeal and perseverance; but from the conflict of opinions, a spirit of illiberality was, in too many instances, allowed to mingle with discussion, and impede the progress and attainment of truth. Whether the yellow fever, as then prevalent, was of an inflammatory or typhoid character, whether the disease was actually of a contagious nature and imported from a foreign country, or originated in some domestic and local cause existing in our cities, were questions agitated with peculiar interest and considerable warmth, by the learned laborers in this ample field of controversy. The discordant opinions of contagionists and non-contagionists, were little calculated to satisfy and soothe the public mind while afflicted with this awful source of mortality. From the investigation and inquiries of some of the most eminent physicians in the United States, much light has been elicited relative to this recondite

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\* For a particular narrative of the sufferings of the inhabitants of Philadelphia by this tremendous visitation, the reader is referred to Rush on the Yellow Fever of 1793, and a publication by Matthew Carey, Esq. and the periodical publications of the day.

subject. It would require volumes to examine and illustrate the various points in controversy, and those who may be desirous of more satisfactory information, may consult the numerous publications of that period relative to the subject in question.

Dr. Rush, after having experienced the palpable inefficiency of all the known curative remedies in the yellow fever of 1793, was induced to adopt the depleting plan, and boldly resorted to the lancet and to mercurial purges, as his last hope ; at subsequent periods of its prevalence, however, the lancet was more cautiously employed, and mercury used as the sovereign remedy. It was given with the view of evacuating the alimentary canal, or in such form as would speedily affect the salivary glands, in which event it proved eminently efficacious. Influenced, probably, by the opinion and example of Dr. Rush, most of the learned physicians of the United States have declared themselves advocates for the mercurial mode of treatment. Being thus sanctioned by the highest medical authority and by general assent, the mercurial practice is now received and adopted by a majority of our practitioners as the safest and most successful method of cure, not only in the yellow fever, but also in typhus and other forms of malignant febrile affections. This plan of treatment was found to be coincident with the practice of some respectable men of extensive experience in the yellow fever of the West Indies. Dr. Chisholm, indeed, is reputed to have been one of the earliest of those who resorted to mercury as an agent in controlling the violence of that fatal disease, in that climate, in the years 1789 and 1790, and he is worthy of being styled the champion of the mercurial practice ; having in one instance exhibited by the mouth, by inunction and by clyster, no less than five thousand seven hundred and four grains of mercury in five days, and the result was the rapid recovery of the patient. It would seem scarcely credible, *a priori*, that the human system were capable of sustaining such an enormous quantity of this active metal, and it is presumed that the learned gentleman will long remain without a rival in this respect in the United States.

Works of great merit have been and still are produced by the profoundly learned and literary professors and teachers of Philadelphia, particularly Rush, Barton, Wistar, Dorsey, Physick, Mease, Currie, Chapman, Dewees and others. Among our periodicals, those published in that city stand pre-eminent in point of merit and utility. The Medical Recorder has long been established and its fame extensively disseminated. The Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences, was commenced in 1820, and is edited by Drs. Chapman, Dewees, &c. This is a work of superior merit. It is proposed to render it still more valuable by enlarging its plan, and uniting in its support the principal medical talents of the country. It will hereafter be known under the name of the American Journal of the Medical Sciences.

The North American Medical and Surgical Journal was commenced in 1826, and is conducted by gentlemen of talent. The Philadelphia Monthly Journal of Medicine and Surgery was commenced in June last, and is gaining reputation and respectable patronage.

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### STATE OF MARYLAND.

THE following were the earliest physicians who flourished in this state. Dr. Hamilton, a Scotch physician of eminence, emigrated to this country about 1700, and settled in Maryland, where he practised for many years with acceptance; nearly contemporary with him were Dr. Sprigg, Weisenthall, Pue, Scott, Murray, and Tootell; and at a later period Drs. Thomas, Warfield, Stewart and Gauth. These gentlemen were educated in foreign schools, and several of them were natives of Europe. They were all eminent practitioners, and did much in forming the medical character of Maryland in the eighteenth century. Gustavus R. Brown, M. D., an eminent physician of Charles county, received his medical education at Edinburgh, and was graduated in medicine at that university in 1768, at which time he defended a thesis on "Animal Heat." On his return he settled in his native place, and enjoyed through life an extensive practice. Dr. Rush, who was contemporary with Dr. Brown at Edinburgh, used to say of him that he was not second to any student of the university at that period. Dr. Brown was not only a well read physician, and an able practitioner of medicine, but a good classical scholar, and indulged his taste for general reading during the whole course of his laborious practice. It is said that he used but few remedies in his practice, and those of a most efficient character. Drs. Gustavus Brown and William Brown were nephews of the preceding, and educated at Edinburgh at nearly the same period. They were both eminent practitioners of medicine, the former of St. Mary's county, Maryland, and the latter of Alexandria. It is not known that either of these gentlemen left any medical writings behind them, except the inaugural thesis which they defended at the time of their graduation. Dr. Parham, of Charles county, Maryland, was contemporary with the Drs. Brown, and also educated at Edinburgh. He was a distinguished practitioner of medicine and surgery in his native state.\* Dr. John Owen practised medicine in the city of Baltimore. He is eulogised in the newspapers as possessing the qualities which gained unbounded confidence in his skill and in his probity. Dr. John Archer, who first introduced the seneca root as a remedy in

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\* See Lecture delivered at Columbia College, D. C. by Thomas Sewall, M. D. Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, to whom I am indebted for this and other extracts.

croup, deserves to be commemorated ; but no memoir of his life could be obtained.

The College of Medicine in Maryland, established at Baltimore, was regularly organized by an act of the legislature of that state, in 1807. This school owes its origin to Dr. John B. Davidge, who in 1804 commenced a course of lectures in Baltimore on midwifery to a class of six students. In 1807 two eminent physicians, Dr. Cocke of Virginia, and Dr. Shaw of Maryland, united in the school, and lectures were given on the different branches of medicine ; in the same year a charter was granted, and the school became regularly organized by the style of the " College of Medicine of Maryland." By the influence and zeal of its distinguished founder, and the labors of other eminent teachers, this institution has been rapidly rising into importance, and at the present time is one of the most respectable institutions in the country. An infirmary has recently been erected in connexion with the school, for the purpose of clinical instruction. The following are the Professors :—

John B. Davidge, M. D. *Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery.*

Nathaniel Potter, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.*

Elisha De Butts, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy.*

Samuel Baker, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica.*

*Professor of Anatomy.*

Richard W. Hall, M. D. *Professor of Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children.*

Maxwell McDowell, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes of Medicine.*

The state of Maryland has an excellent pauper establishment which contains an infirmary, a lying-in hospital, a workhouse for the employment of vagrants, an asylum for destitute children, a lunatic hospital, and a medical and surgical school.

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## STATE OF VIRGINIA.

In the history of this state are recognised the names of distinguished medical men among the earliest colonists. " In 1608, being the year after the planting of the colony of Virginia at James Town, the arrival of Walter Russel, doctor of physic, is mentioned by the colonists ; and he is afterwards spoken of as accompanying Capt. Smith on a voyage of discovery, from James Town to the Chesapeake, and up the Potomac to the Falls ; and also, of having rendered surgical aid to Capt. Smith, in the case of an accident which happened to him on this occasion. Some islands, which we discovered in the Chesapeake, during the voyage,

were called Russel's Islands, says Capt. Smith, in honor of Dr. Russel. Anthony Bagnal, surgeon, is also mentioned by Capt. Smith, as accompanying him on a similar voyage, made the same year from James Town to Nansamond, the place where Norfolk is now situated. Drs. Russel and Bagnall, therefore, were probably the first physicians who came over to the colony of Virginia ; but whether they remained in the country or soon returned to Europe, we have no account ; but it is probable that their residence in America was only temporary ; for, in 1609, when Capt. Smith was badly wounded by the explosion of gunpowder, he says there was neither chirurgion nor chirurgery at the fort ; and he was compelled to return to Europe, for the recovery of his health. In 1611 Dr. Bohun is mentioned, being about to leave the colony of Virginia, and to take ship with Lord Delaware for the West Indies. But no particular account is given of either of these physicians."

John Mitchell, M. D. (*b*), a distinguished physician and botanist, came from England and settled in Virginia about 1700. He wrote an interesting and original essay on the causes of the different colors of people of different climates, which was published in the Philosophical Transactions. He was also the author of several valuable productions, which will be particularized in his biography in this volume. Dr. John Clayton (*b*), an eminent botanist and physician, came to Virginia in 1705 ; as a practical botanist he was probably not inferior to any one of the age, and his practical observations gave him a respectable rank among the learned naturalists of that period. Mark Catesby, F. R. S. though not a physician, may be noticed as a very eminent naturalist. He was born in England, 1679, and came to Virginia in 1712, and in 1722 removed to South Carolina. He spent nearly his whole life in the cultivation of natural science. In 1748 he published a natural history of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands, containing numerous plates. Dr. John Tennent, a respectable physician of Port Royal, Virginia, who brought into view the virtues of the Seneca snake root, published in 1736 at Williamsburgh an essay on pleurisy, in which he treats of the Seneca as an efficient remedy in the cure of this disease. Dr. Tennent, it is believed, was a family connexion of the late celebrated Dr. Richard Mead, of London. He held a medical correspondence with Dr. Mead for many years, and it was to him that he first communicated his account of the Seneca. Dr. George Greham, a respectable physician of Virginia, emigrated to this country in the early part of the last century. He was a native of the north of England, and was educated at Edinburgh. When he came over to this country he settled at Dumfries in Virginia, where he enjoyed an extensive practice for many years, and sustained a high reputation. Dr. Currie, of Richmond, practised through his life with great reputa-

tion. He seemed to possess, intuitively, the faculty of distinguishing the character of disease, and of discovering the remedy. He received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Siccary, a practitioner of medicine, was, it is believed, a Portuguese Jew. It is said by Mr. Jefferson, that we are indebted to him for the introduction of that admirable vegetable, the tomato. He was of opinion that a person who should eat a sufficient abundance of these apples, would never die. Whether he followed his own prescription, is not known; but he certainly attained to a very old age, and particularly for the climate in which he lived. The tomato is raised in abundance in Virginia and the adjoining states, and is regarded as a great luxury, and by some is considered a preservative against bilious diseases. Dr. Andrew Robertson was a native of Scotland, and received his medical education at the Edinburgh University. He first served as a military surgeon in the British army in Flanders, and came to America with Braddock's army in 1755. He remained in the country, and settled in Virginia, where he acquired a high reputation, and for many years enjoyed an extensive practice. He was particularly distinguished for his charity and attention to the indigent sick. He made several valuable medical communications, which were published in the "London Medical Inquiries and Observations." He died in 1795.

Arthur Lee, M. D. was a native of Virginia, and brother to Richard Henry Lee, the celebrated patriot of the revolution. Dr. Lee received his classical education at Edinburgh, and afterwards studied medicine in that university. As soon as he was graduated, he returned to his native state and settled at Williamsburg, where he practised medicine for several years; but afterwards abandoned the profession, went to England, and commenced the study of the law in the Temple. He soon entered into political life, and rendered important services to his country during the revolutionary war. He died in Virginia, in 1792. Hugh Mercer, M. D. a general of the revolutionary war, was a distinguished physician, who, like Warren, fell in the defence of the liberties of his country. He was a native of Scotland, and educated at Edinburgh. He early emigrated to Virginia and settled at Fredericksburg, where he practised medicine for several years with great reputation. During the revolution, he zealously engaged in the support of the liberties of his adopted country, and fell in the battle of Princeton in 1777. James McLurg, M. D. was a native of Scotland, and was educated at Edinburgh. He was graduated in medicine about 1771, and defended an experimental thesis on the bile. He settled at Williamsburg, and was by common consent placed at the head of the profession. Dr. William Baynam (*b*) was long considered as the most eminent surgeon in the southern states, and was particularly distinguished for his accurate knowledge of anatomy. He died in 1814. Walter Jones, M. D. (*b*),



one of the most eminent physicians in our country, was born in Virginia, and received his medical education at Edinburgh, where he was graduated about the year 1770. He practised in Virginia, and sustained through life the highest standing both as a scholar and physician. Dr. James Craik (*b*), a respectable Scotch physician, was educated at Edinburgh and came over to this country with Braddock's army in 1755, and served as surgeon in General Braddock's campaign, after which he settled in Virginia. He sustained an important office in the medical department during the whole of the war of independence, and enjoyed the personal friendship and confidence of Washington, and attended that illustrious chief in his last illness. He died at Alexandria in 1814, at the age of 84 years. Dr. Dick was also one of the attending physicians of Washington, but we have no information respecting his life and character.

Medical School of the valley of Virginia, established at Winchester in 1826. Professors :—

John G. Cooke, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Obstetrics.*

Phillip Smith, *Professor of Materia Medica.*

H. H. McGuire, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

A. F. Magill, M. D. *Professor of Surgery and Chemistry.*

## STATE OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.

FOR eighty or ninety years after the settlement of this state, according to the late Dr. Ramsay, the practice of physick was almost entirely in the hands of Europeans : among these were several able physicians, who possessed an accurate knowledge of the diseases of our country, and, says the great man just mentioned, at a period before Dr. Rush began his brilliant career as an author, there were more experiments made, more observations recorded and more medical writings ushered into public view by the physicians of Charleston, than of any other part of the American continent. Between the years 1768 and 1778, ten native Carolinians obtained the honors of a medical degree at the University of Edinburgh ; three of these were afterwards presidents of the Medical Society of that state, viz. Drs. Fayssoux, Harris and Chandler. About the year 1748, John Lining, M. D. (*b*) published an accurate history of the American yellow fever, which was the first on this subject which issued from an American press. Lionel Chalmers, M. D. (*b*) in 1754 communicated to the Medical Society of London some valuable remarks on Opisthotonus and Tetanus, and he published also an essay on fevers in 1767.

Alexander Garden, M. D. (*b*) presented to the public in 1764 an account of the medical properties of the *Spigelia Marylandica*, or Carolina Pinkroot, with a botanical description of the plant. John Moultrie, M. D. (*b*), a distinguished physician of Charleston, was a native of Europe, and came to this country in 1733. For 40 years he stood at the head of his profession in the city. He possessed great talents for observation, and was wonderfully successful in finding out the hidden causes of disease. He was the idol of his patients; and such were the affection and attachment of his female friends that at his death, in 1773, many ladies of the city went into mourning on his account. The year following his death, an unusual number of females died in childbed, and apparently from despondency. Dr. Moultrie had a son who was graduated at Edinburgh in 1749, and was a distinguished scholar and an eminent practitioner of medicine in Charleston. At his graduation he defended a thesis, "*De Febre Flava*." William Bull, M. D. (*b*) was a physician of South Carolina, and a native of the state, distinguished for his literary attainments, as well as for an extensive knowledge of the science of medicine. He was the pupil of Boerhaave, and received the degree of M. D. at the University of Leyden in 1734, at which time he defended a thesis on "*Colica Pictorum*." He is quoted by Van Swieten as his fellow student, with the title of the learned Dr. Bull, and was the first native of South Carolina, and probably the first American, who obtained a degree in medicine. Drs. Alexander Baron, Tucker, Harris and Samuel Wilson, should be mentioned in terms of high respect; they died in advanced age. But of all the medical characters which have adorned the southern states, no one has displayed more brilliant talents, or professional erudition, than the late David Ramsay, M. D. (*b*). An interesting memoir of this learned physician will be found in the biographical department in this work.

In 1824 the Medical College of South Carolina was established at Charleston. In this school there are seven professorships. The students have the privilege of attending the practice of the Marine Hospital. The professors are :—

John Edwards Holbrook, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy.*

S. Henry Dickson, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Physic.*

James Ramsay, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

Thomas G. Prioleau, M. D. *Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.*

Henry Rutledge Frost, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica.*

Edmund Ravenel, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

Stephen Elliot, LL.D. *Professor of Botany and Natural History.*

The yellow fever was known to exist in Charleston so early as the year 1699, and again in 1748, when Dr. Lining published an

accurate history of the disease, and pronounced it imported and contagious. At several subsequent periods that city has been afflicted with the same mortal epidemic.

In the year 1738 smallpox was brought from Africa by a cargo of slaves into Charleston, where from the beginning of June to the end of August it proved exceedingly fatal. Mr. Mowbray, a surgeon, was the first who introduced inoculation into this Province, and in a short time performed the operation upon 450 persons. He was seconded by Dr. Kirkpatrick and others, so that the number of the inoculated in a few months amounted to 1000, including whites and blacks. Six of the former and two of the latter died of the disease thus communicated.

THE Medical College of Ohio was established in Cincinnati in 1818. Professors :—

Jedediah Cobb, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine.*

Elijah Slack, A. M. *Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.*

John Moorhead, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Obstetrics.*

Jesse Smith, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Surgery.*

Transylvania University. Medical School at Lexington, Kentucky. Professors :—

Benjamin W. Dudley, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Surgery.*  
Charles Caldwell, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes of Medicine and Clinical Practice.*

Daniel Drake, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.*

William H. Richardson, *Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.*

Short, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Botany.*

James Blythe, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

The Medical School of Jefferson College, located in Philadelphia. Professors :—

John Eberle, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice, and Clinical Medicine.*

George McClellan, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

Jacob Green, A. M. *Professor of Chemistry.*

B. Rush Rhees, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica.*

F. S. Beattie, M. D. *Professor of the Institutes of Medicine and Midwifery.*

Nathan R. Smith, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

Columbia College, D. C. Instituted under a charter of the Congress of the United States, and located at Washington, District of Columbia, in 1824. Professors:—

Thomas Sewall, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

James M. Stoughton, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

Thomas Henderson, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.*

N. W. Worthington, M. D. *Professor of Materia Medica.*

Edward Cutbush, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry.*

Frederick May, M. D. *Professor of Obstetrics.*

The following is a statement of the several medical institutions in the United States, with the date of their respective organization, and the number of students attending the lectures in 1825-6, as correct as possible.

	No. st.		No. st.
University of Pennsylvania	1765 480	Med. School of Maine	1820 60
Med. School of New-York	1763 196*	Med. School of Brown University	1821 40
Med. School of Harvard College	1782 180	Med. School of the University of Vermont	1822 42
Med. School of Dartmouth College	1798 80	Berkshire Med. School	1822 94
College of Med. of Maryland	1807 215	Med. College of S. Carolina	1824 50
College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District of the state of N. Y.	1812 120	Med. School of Jefferson Coll.	1824
Med. School of Yale College	1813 82	Columbia College, in the District of Columbia	1824
Med. College of Ohio	1818 22	Med. School of Auburn	1825
Vermont Academy of Med.	1818 124	Med. School of the Valley of Virginia	1826
Med. School of Transylvania	1819 235	Rutgers Med. College	1826 153

We have now detailed, in the order of time of their respective establishments, no less than twenty medical schools and colleges in the United States, and it is hoped that no one is omitted; there is the best reason to believe that they have been organized with great judgment, and are conducted with commendable zeal and ability. It will be perceived that a course of lectures is given in all the institutions on the various branches of medical science, from three to five months annually. The subjects of anatomy and surgery are illustrated by dissections and operations on the dead body, and by models, drawings, and dried preparations; the subject of chemistry, by the exhibition of chemical experiments. Most of the schools are in possession of valuable medical libraries, anatomical and mineralogical cabinets, museums, &c., and, in almost all instances, hospitals or infirmaries are established in connexion, affording the young student the best possible opportunities of improvement in practical medicine. Every school is invested with

\* In 1826-7 reduced to 84.

the power of conferring medical degrees on those who, on examination, are found to be entitled to such honors; the manner and form are nearly similar in all the schools. Such is the unexampled progress in medical improvement, and such the ample means of instruction at the present day, although "one hundred and fifty-eight years of our history elapsed after the first settlement of America, before a single medical school existed in the country"; and though about sixty years ago one only was established, and but ten pupils attended its first lectures, we may at the present time boast of twenty schools, occupying the talents of more than one hundred eminent professors, imparting public instruction to more than two thousand young students annually. Besides the numerous seminaries already noticed, medical societies for the regulation of the practice of physic, and the suppression of quackery and empiricism, have been formed in most of the states of the union. The establishment of these institutions originated with the legislature of Massachusetts, who in the year 1781 incorporated the first body of this description, by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society. The views and design of the founders of this excellent institution, with the very important advantages which have resulted to the community by its operation, have already been detailed in page 38. Similar societies have since been incorporated by the legislatures of most of the states. In some of the states where such societies exist, persons who are not licensed are permitted to practise, and are allowed the benefit of the law; and in some states, a severe penalty is inflicted for prescribing medicine without a licence.

By the establishment of medical schools and societies throughout our country within the last half century, most important improvements have been made in almost every branch of the science of medicine, and it must be gratifying to every patriot to know that our citizens have acted a very conspicuous part in effecting an object, in which the character of our nation and the interest of mankind are so deeply concerned. These circumstances will be hailed as propitious omens of the prosperity and literary fame which await our aspiring citizens. Important and auspicious effects are already visible in the character of our physicians. A thirst for the acquisition of knowledge, a laudable emulation, a taste for observation, inquiry and research, have been excited, and the talents and efforts of medical men in various sections of the union have been happily combined. Within the last half century medical publications have greatly multiplied in the United States, and many of them reflect honor, both on their authors and on the national character. The numerous and valuable works of our late medical philosopher, Professor Rush, hold the first rank in the American catalogue. These, with the learned productions of Professors Barton, Hosack, and Mitchell, have been translated into various foreign languages, and received the meed of applause from some of

the most celebrated characters of the European continent. The Anatomy of the late professor Wistar has been received with universal approbation, as a display of uncommon talent, and will be a lasting monument to his memory. Dr. Dorsey's "Elements of Surgery," an original work in two volumes, has been republished, and, it is said, made a text book in the celebrated medical school at Edinburgh.\* There are numerous other writers in the United States, who by their labors have honorably contributed to our domestic literature and science. Many handsome specimens of ability, industry and learning, will be found among the inaugural dissertations published by the students of our medical schools; and the most considerable portion of our journals and periodical publications, in point of merit and utility, may vie with the long established vehicles and repositories of medical intelligence beyond the Atlantic. The plans and means of instruction in our establishments and seminaries, are continually improving. The road to medical knowledge is laid open, and is fraught with allurements. Emulation and fashion are directing their votaries into its various avenues, and conducting them to the fountain of professional honors, distinctions and emoluments. No longer, therefore, need our young men humbly reap the fruits of European fields, but assiduously cultivate and diffuse the ample advantages to be found in our own. In duly appreciating the advantages of our own institutions we advance the interest and reputation of our native country, and prevent the necessity of an expensive resort to Europe in pursuit of medical knowledge. We recognise in our institutions no uniform theoretical system as the rule of practice. Medical history affords abundant evidence of the instability of human systems. Every age has teemed with theories or visionary hypotheses fleeting as the wind, scarcely surviving their authors, but yielding to others as transient and unsubstantial as themselves. The medical authorities most respected, are Cullen, Rush and Good. These, modified and improved according to the judgement and views of the respective professors, are adopted and taught in the various American universities. In the art of surgery the leading authorities are Pott, the Bells, Desault, the Coopers, Abernethy, Cline, Home, Latta and Hey, to whom we may add our own countrymen, Physick and Dorsey of Philadelphia, Post and Mott, of New-York, and the late John Warren, and John C. Warren of Boston, and others, whose names we may with pride associate with those who have adorned the annals of surgery, in either hemisphere, in ancient or modern times. In the departments of chemistry and botany, the most modern European authors are consulted, together with the labors and improvements of our own enlightened professors. American botany is now cultivated

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\* This it is hoped will silence those invidious writers in that country, who for years have labored to detract from the merit of American physicians.

with that commendable ardor and solicitude, which the importance of the subject demands, and many indigenous medicinal plants have been introduced as new articles of our *materia medica*.

Although there is no uniform standard of attainments established, in order to graduation, in most of our schools it is required, that before a student can be admitted to an examination for a degree, he must have attained to the age of twenty-one, have studied three years with some regular physician, attended two full courses of lectures on the different branches of medicine, and, if he has not enjoyed the advantages of a collegiate education, he must furnish satisfactory evidence of having made respectable classical attainments; and particularly that he has acquired a competent knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages, has studied mathematics, natural and experimental philosophy, geography, and belles lettres. In several of our schools it is required that he shall have attended the clinical practice of some infirmary for a specified term. It is also required that, before he can receive his degree, he must pass a close examination in the different branches of medicine, and write and defend a thesis on some medical subject.

A national Pharmacopœia, adapted to the present state of medical science in the United States, had long been a desideratum, as the only mode by which a uniform system of practice could be established. In January, 1817, Dr. Lyman Spalding submitted to the New-York County Medical Society a project for the formation of a national Pharmacopœia, by the authority of all the medical societies and medical schools in the United States. The plan adopted for the purpose of accomplishing this great object, was to divide the United States and territories into four districts, viz. the northern, middle, southern and western. In each of these districts a convention was called, consisting of delegates from the several medical societies, colleges of physicians and surgeons, medical schools, faculties of medicine and voluntary associations of physicians. It was proposed that each district convention should form a Pharmacopœia, or select one in general use, and make therein such alterations and additions as might adapt it to the present state of medical science. The district conventions were requested to appoint one or more delegates to meet in a general convention and submit to the same their Pharmacopœia. Circular letters were transmitted to the medical schools and institutions throughout the United States, and met with universal approbation. The places designated for the meeting of the district conventions were Boston, Philadelphia, Columbia in South Carolina, and Lexington in Kentucky. These district conventions held their meetings accordingly, and appointed delegates to meet in a general convention to be held in the city of Washington, for the purpose of compiling the American Pharmacopœia from those which were presented by the district conventions. It was agreed that each medical society, or medical institution, should defray the expenses

of its own delegation and its proportion of the expenses of the district convention : that the general convention should adopt a plan for revising the American Pharmacopœia at the end of every ten years ; and that no alteration should be made therein except at those periods, and then only by the authority aforesaid. The general convention for the formation of the Pharmacopœia assembled in the capitol at Washington on the first day of January, 1820, and elected Samuel L. Mitchell, M. D. as their president, and Thomas T. Hewson, M. D. as secretary. Two Pharmacopœias, being those prepared in the northern and middle districts, were submitted to examination. These works were duly examined and compared in detail, and their contents, with such additions as were thought necessary, consolidated into one work, which, after full revision, was adopted by the general convention as the American Pharmacopœia, and ordered to be published by a committee appointed for that purpose. It was a preliminary that the general convention should sell, for ten years, the copyright of the American Pharmacopœia, and that they should defray their expenses out of the proceeds of the sale, and also that it be recommended to every medical society, &c. to adopt the Pharmacopœia, and encourage the use of it by all druggists and apothecaries. It was resolved by the general convention that their president shall on the first of January, 1828, issue writs of election to the several incorporated state medical societies, &c. requiring them to ballot for delegates to a general convention to be held at Washington on the first of January, 1830, for the purpose of revising the Pharmacopœia, and introducing such alterations and additions as the progress of medical and pharmaceutical science may require.

The following periodical publications on the subject of medicine have been established in the United States.

The New-York Medical Repository was the first medical journal published in the United States, and was commenced in that city in 1797 by the joint labors of Drs. Samuel L. Mitchell, Edward Miller, and Elihu H. Smith. Since the commencement of this work, a succession of periodical journals has been established, among which are :—

The Philadelphia Medical and Physical Journal, commenced in	1804
Philadelphia Medical Museum, in	1805
Baltimore Medical and Physical Recorder, in	1808
New-York Medical and Philosophical Journal and Review, in	1809
American Medical and Philosophical Register (at New-York), in	1810
The American Mineralogical Journal (at New-York,) in	1810
Eclectic Repertory (at Philadelphia), in	1811
Baltimore Medical and Philosophical Lyceum, in	1811



New England Journal of Medicine and Surgery (at Boston), in - - - - -	1812
American Medical Recorder (at Philadelphia), in - - -	1818
Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences, in - - - - -	1820
American Journal of Science and Arts (at New-Haven), in - - - - -	1821
New-York Medical and Physical Journal, in - - - - -	1822
Western Medical Reporter (at Cincinnati, Ohio), about -	1822
Hartford Analectic Journal of Medicine and Surgery, in -	1823
Boston Medical Intelligencer, in - - - - -	1823
Medical Review and Analectic Journal (at Philadelphia), in	1824
New-York Monthly Chronicle of Medicine and Surgery, in	1824
Carolina Journal of Medicine, Science, and Agriculture (at Charleston), in - - - - -	1825
The North American Medical and Surgical Journal (at Philadelphia), in - - - - -	1826
Philadelphia Monthly Journal of Medicine and Surgery, in	1827

"These publications have, in general, been well sustained, and while they have been useful in disseminating medical information, and in exciting a more general taste for reading and inquiry, they have called forth the talents of physicians in every part of the United States, in exploring the medical topography of the country, investigating the causes of its epidemic and endemic diseases, examining its animal, vegetable, and mineral productions, and in publishing the results of their observations and discoveries to the world. They have thus been among the most efficient means of advancing medical science, and elevating the character of the profession. Several of the journals which have been established, are discontinued, and others have assumed a different title."\* As vehicles imparting useful knowledge, and improving the science of medicine, they have been of the highest importance. If the advancement of science in the early periods of our history was marked with tardy and feeble steps, we can boast of honorable amendment by the rapid strides observable in our own times. Within the last sixty years our progress has been without a parallel. We have established no less than twenty medical schools, besides medical societies; numerous hospitals, infirmaries and dispensaries, devoted to the cause of humanity and benevolence, have been erected; a system of medical education and of medical police has been established, and their benefits extensively diffused. In the language of a late elegant writer,† "We have produced a host of able teachers, successful practitioners, and some of the best writers of the age. If much has already been accomplished,

\* Professor Sewall's first lecture at the opening of Columbia College, D. C. March, 1826.

† Ibid.

much still remains to be done. Though our large towns and cities and the more populous parts of our country are supplied with well educated physicians, a large portion of our territory, remote from the schools, is still without those who have enjoyed the benefits of public instruction. If we have ten thousand physicians, as computed by a late writer, we have more than fifteen thousand practitioners of medicine, many of whom have never heard a public lecture, or seen a demonstration in anatomy." "If, in sixty years, with the limited means we have possessed, and with all the difficulties we have had to encounter, we have produced the best system of medical education, the most perfect code of medical police that has been exhibited to the world; if we have produced some of the best practical and elementary books, and some of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of any age or country; if we have done this in the short period of sixty years that are passed, what will be our advance in sixty years to come?" The foregoing sentiments of Professor Sewall, as it respects the multiplication of medical schools, and the increased facilities of acquiring professional knowledge, cannot but receive universal acquiescence, as a happy display of the prosperity of our country, and auspicious to our national character. But it has unfortunately happened, that in some of our cities instances have occurred to prove that prosperity and successful progress depend less on the number of schools, than the harmoniously combined efforts of a single institution. Collision and unfair rivalry, ought to be reprobated by all who have at heart the true interest and honor of the profession. But so multiplied and copious are now the fountains of medical honors that the streams flow into every one's soil, and the diploma is prepared to announce from numerous sources talent and acquirements with surprising facility. Notwithstanding, however, we may pride ourselves on the number of our medical institutions, it is to be apprehended that the degree of medical knowledge and attainments of our students generally, is inferior to that which is required of graduates at the European schools. Experience has verified the fact, that in too many instances degrees are conferred on candidates who are not qualified to discharge the duties of the profession, or to reflect honor on their instructors. The subject, therefore, is not unworthy of mature consideration, whether a more limited number of medical institutions in our country would not better subserve the great object in view, the improvement of medical science and literature. This would afford an opportunity of selecting professors from among those of the highest grade in point of talent and weight of character, and the increased number of students would yield them ample encouragement and support. This object effected, a uniform system of instruction and terms of admission to practice might be established, a longer period for education and a greater amount of scientific acquirements be made a requisite stipulation,

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and all pretence obviated for students to prefer a particular school with the view of obtaining a diploma on more favorable conditions. In consequence of diligent and learned research, and of emulation among medical philosophers, new and important facts have been developed, and the restoring art has reached an honorable and dignified rank among the sciences. Yet it is still fraught with deficiencies and altogether inadequate to our desires. To what extent the frail condition of human nature is capable of being meliorated, and existence protracted by the application of the principles of medicine, must be reserved to the wisdom and industry of future generations to determine. It is, nevertheless, incumbent upon us to consecrate our talents to this noble science, duly to appreciate and exalt its merit, to cherish its dignity, to study and improve its principles, and to cultivate a religious sense of the inestimable blessings which mankind derive from its influence. "So great," says the pious Dr. Rush, "are the blessings which mankind derive from the healing art, that if every other argument failed to prove the administration of a Providence in human affairs, the profession of medicine would be fully sufficient for that purpose."



## **AMERICAN MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY.**

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**Peace to their ashes, and the stamp of immortality on their memory.**

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## AMERICAN MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY.

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ADAMS, SAMUEL, M.M.S.S. was the only son of Samuel Adams, late governor of Massachusetts. He was born at Boston, 27th October, 1751. His preparatory education was at a Latin school in his native town. He entered Harvard University at the age of fourteen years, and was graduated in 1770. His professional education was acquired under the direction of Dr. Joseph Warren, and he practised one year in Boston.

When hostilities commenced with Great Britain in 1775, Dr. Adams, imbued with the patriotic spirit of his father, engaged as surgeon in the hospital department of our army. Commencing his public services at Cambridge, by attending the soldiers who were wounded at Lexington and Bunker's Hill, he afterwards removed to Danbury and successively to various stations in several of the states, and continued in the service during the revolutionary war; after which he returned to his native town with a broken constitution, and was unable to recommence his professional pursuits. He died of a scrofulous affection of several of the vital organs, on the 17th of January, 1788. He was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He possessed a substantial mind, social feelings and a generous heart, and his greatest pleasure was to do good to his fellow men.

It was fortunate for Dr. Adams that, instead of selling his demands upon government for his army services, as did many of his military companions, for a trifle, he retained possession of them until by the funding system they were established at their full value; and he was thus enabled to leave to an aged parent a competency for his declining years, without which the venerable patriot must

have depended for subsistence upon the kindness of his friends or the charity of the public.

ANDERSON, JAMES, M.D. Having successfully terminated his academical pursuits at an early age, Dr. Anderson commenced the study of medicine under the direction of his father, a very respectable physician from Scotland. He attended a course of lectures by Professors Shippen and Morgan in the school of Philadelphia, then in its infancy; and next sailed for Edinburgh, at that time the focus of medical literature. Circumstances, which it is unnecessary to mention, not permitting him to remain long enough to obtain a degree, he returned to this country with an ample certificate signed by his preceptors, Cullen, the elder Munro, and the whole board of professors.

Immediately on his return he commenced the practice of physic in conjunction with his father. Deeply versed in general, and particularly in medical, science, and devoted almost beyond example to the performance of his professional duties, he soon obtained a reputation unenjoyed by any of his competitors. For a period of upwards of thirty years, he retained a practice of an extent certainly without a parallel in this section of the country. Advancing rapidly towards his sixtieth year, and feeling the infirmities consequent on a life so laborious, he retired to his seat near Chestertown. In this situation, however, he was not allowed the repose which he anticipated. Though the native vigor of his constitution was broken down by the invasion of disease and by those accidents to which his course of life subjected him, he attended, almost to the close of it, to the calls of his patients.

As a physician, though attached to the doctrine of the old school, his rank was second to none in the state. Prompt in his decisions, and drawing from a rich fund of learning and experience, it may be truly said, that in his diagnostic discriminations and clinical calculations he seldom failed. As a husband, father, friend, in every domestic and social relation, the world had not his superior. His rank as a christian was eminently distinguished. Equally removed from lukewarmness and enthusiasm, he was a disciple of Wesley, and strenuously contended that not to admit the truth of his tenets, was to deny the obvious doctrines of the holy scriptures. Communicative and affable in his deportment to all, he never for a moment forgot the dignity of his character, or what it exacted. Easy of ac-



cess, and acutely sensible to the wants of others, the needy sufferer rarely made a fruitless application for aid. His home was an asylum for the indigent, and such were his liberality and benevolence, that, though his practice was extensive and lucrative, he was precluded from the accumulation of wealth.

In his last and painful illness his demeanor was instructive and exemplary. Patient to a degree seldom equalled, never surpassed, he was always thankful for the little attentions and services of his friends ; and in the final trying scenes submitted with meekness to the will of his Heavenly Father. He died December 8th, 1820, at his seat in the vicinity of Chestertown, Maryland, in the 69th year of his age.—*Phila. Journal of Med. and Phys. Sciences, Vol. II.*

✓ ASPINWALL, WILLIAM, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born in Brookline, Mass. on the 23d May (old style), 1743. His ancestors emigrated from England about the year 1630 with the 4000 emigrants. Peter Aspinwall first settled at Dorchester, and afterwards at Brookline about the year 1650, and the farm which he occupied is still in the hands of the descendants. The house built by Peter, being the oldest house in Brookline, with the venerable elm near it which was planted by him, also remains. William, the subject of this memoir, was the sole survivor of three generations which were born in this place.\* He was fitted for college by the Rev. Amos Adams, minister of Roxbury, and was graduated at Harvard University in 1764. Having determined on devoting his life to the medical profession, he pursued his studies with the celebrated Dr. Benjamin Gale of Connecticut, and completed his education at the hospital in Philadelphia, where he received the degree of Doctor of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania about the year 1768. Dr. Aspinwall returned to his native village and commenced the practice of medicine, being the first physician who settled in the place.

At the commencement of our revolutionary war, under an enthusiastic impulse to espouse the cause of his country, he applied for a commission in the army ; but his kinsman and friend Dr. Joseph Warren, afterwards Major General Warren, dissuaded him from this pursuit and induced him to serve his country in the medical department. Accordingly Dr. Aspinwall received the appointment of Surgeon in

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\* See History of New England (Winthrop's) edited by James Savage, Esq.

General Heath's brigade, and, soon after, that of deputy director of the hospital on Jamaica Plain, by the recommendation of General Warren. On the memorable day of Lexington battle, Dr. Aspinwall was a volunteer and combatted personally in the conflict. He bore from the field the corpse of Isaac Gardner, Esq. whose eldest daughter he afterwards married. Mr. Gardner commanded the Brookline company of militia, and fell in Cambridge, having his body perforated with twelve bullets. His son, the late General Isaac S. Gardner, then at the age of 16, was in his father's company the day above mentioned. Dr. Aspinwall had the body of his revered friend carried to his house and buried at midnight, in order that the number of our martyred citizens might as much as possible be concealed from public view.

It was the personal interest which he took in the revolutionary contest, acting upon a mind deeply imbued with a sense of his country's wrongs, that gave strength and tone to his sentiments in after life. Dr. Aspinwall's language on political subjects was bold and strong, his creed being that of a democratic republican. In the unhappy scenes of party excitement he unwaveringly adhered to what he deemed original and fundamental principles, but he aimed to preserve a good conscience, and to do justice to the honest opinions, the pure motives and undoubted integrity of his opponents. He was not a political persecutor, and when he was in the councils of the state, resolutely declined acting with his coadjutors, who were disposed to drive from office incumbents, whose only fault was what they deemed political heresy.

After the death of the eminent and distinguished Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, the first inoculator of smallpox in America, Dr. Aspinwall established himself in that undertaking, and erected hospitals for that purpose in Brookline. Perhaps no practitioner in the United States ever inoculated so many persons or acquired such skill and celebrity in treating this malignant disease as Dr. A. Besides his practice in this disorder when it generally spread, he was allowed after the year 1788 to keep a hospital open at all times, to which great numbers resorted, and from which they returned with warm expressions of satisfaction. He continued in the successful treatment of this disease till the general introduction of vaccine inoculation. He had made ample accommodation for enlarged practice, and establish-

ed what might have been justly deemed a sure foundation for prosperity, when vaccine inoculation was first introduced. He well knew that, if vaccination possessed the virtues ascribed to it, his schemes of fortune and usefulness arising from inoculation at his hospital, were ruined, that he should be involved in loss, and his anticipations of fortune would be blasted. But as an honest man and faithful physician, he deemed it his duty to inquire into the efficacy of the novel substitute. With the utmost alacrity, therefore, he gave the experiment a fair trial, promptly acknowledged its efficacy, and relinquished his own establishment. The foregoing is corroborated by the following statement recently made by Dr. Waterhouse in the Medical Intelligencer.

“ The late Dr. Aspinwall, a man of great sagacity, and uncommonly well grounded in the principles of his profession, gave evidence of it on the first sight of a vaccine pustule. I had invited all the elder physicians of Boston and the vicinity of Cambridge to see the first vaccine pustules ever raised in the new world. They gave them the ordinary inspection of an unusual eruption on the skin ;—all but Dr. Aspinwall, whose attention was riveted on the pustule, its areola and efflorescence. He came a second time, and viewed the inoculated part in every light, and reviewed it, and seemed loath to leave the sight of it. He seemed wrapped in serious thought, and said repeatedly—‘ this pustule is so like smallpox, and yet it is not smallpox, that, should it on scabbing take out a portion of the true skin, so as to leave an indelible mark or pit behind, I shall be ready to conclude, that it is a mild species of smallpox, hitherto unknown here.’ He had been in the habit of examining the smallpox pimple and pustule, through glasses, to know if it ‘ *had taken* ;’ and he remarked that they were peculiar, *unique*, and unlike any other eruption he ever saw ; but that this *Kine Pock* came the nearest to it. Sometime after, I gave him a portion of the virus to make his own experiments, and observe the progress of its inoculation, and coincidence of the constitutional symptoms, when he observed, that its progress, febrile affection, and mode of scabbing were *very like* smallpox, and so of the indelible mark left on the arm ; yet throughout the whole visible affection, *different*. To crown the whole of his honorable conduct, he some time after took all those of my family whom I had vaccinated, into his smallpox hospital,

the only licensed one in the state, and there tested them to his satisfaction, and one to the very verge of rigid experiment; and then he said to me and to others—*‘this new Inoculation of yours, is no SHAM. As a man of humanity, I rejoice in it; although it will take from me a handsome annual income.’* His conduct throughout was so strongly marked with superior intelligence, generosity and honor, as to excite my esteem and respect; and I accordingly dedicate this effusion of gratitude to the memory of the Hon. William Aspinwall, M. D.; a gentleman respectable in public life as a counsellor, and an honor to his profession as a physician.”

In the character of a physician, Dr. Aspinwall was particularly distinguished. His practice embraced a wide circle, and he devoted himself to it with unremitting ardor and fidelity for forty-five years. During the largest part of his time he rode on horseback, often upwards of forty miles a day, and it was not usual for him to retire to rest until after midnight. The natural strength of his constitution, his constant exposure to the elements, and his resolute devotion to his profession, enabled him to endure the fatigues of mind and body consequent upon such daily and incessant labor. The necessity of reading and writing to a late hour almost every night with but one eye (having lost the other by accident in his youth), brought on at length a disease in that organ, which terminated in the formation of a cataract and deprived him of sight. In his profession he was distinguished for prompt attendance, for soundness of judgment, just discrimination, caution in untried experiments, and for fearless confidence in what stood approved to his reason and resulted from experience. His patients reposed unlimited confidence in his judgment, skill and fidelity. To them he was an angel of consolation, a physician greatly beloved. In the affairs of his native town, the birth place, and place of burial of so many kindred, Dr. Aspinwall ever took a lively concern. He devoted much time to its interest in various offices. He represented the town in the general court several years, was thrice elected a senator for Norfolk county, and served one term as counsellor. He was solicited to become one of the justices of the Court of Common Pleas, but he declined and retired from public employment. In all these trusts he was faithful to the interest of his constituents and to the public weal, as well as unwavering in his political creed.

Dr. Aspinwall made a public profession of religion at an early age, and during a long life he maintained a good profession. He honored the institutions and ministers of religion, and was never absent from public worship when professional duty permitted his attendance. He imparted religious counsel, as well as medical aid, at the bed of sickness. Of his holy faith he always spoke with profound respect. Under bereavement, infirmity and sickness, his religious principles yielded him firm support and buoyed him above the vicissitudes of life. During a confinement of several of the last years of his life, when deprived of his sight, the religion of Jesus Christ was his support and consolation. It was the theme of his discourse, and he considered his testimony in its favor the best legacy he could bequeath to his children. He died on the 16th of April, 1823, of natural decay, having nearly completed his eightieth year. Dr. A. was endowed with a strong intellect, and a resoluteness that shrunk from no labor or duty. He was an example of perseverance amidst untoward circumstances, and of accommodating them to his peculiar situation. To young physicians his example holds out encouragement, that economy, integrity, constant industry and unremitting study of his profession, will finally succeed, and bring reputation and competence. Dr. A. was a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society and a Justice of the peace throughout the commonwealth.

A few years before his death Dr. Nathan Smith attempted to remove the cataract over his eye, but was unsuccessful, and the glimmering light that had remained was unfortunately totally extinguished. He bore this physical darkness with resignation and tranquillity. He considered it a merciful dispensation in his Maker to suspend his labors and give him leisure and opportunity, which during a very active life he had too seldom enjoyed, for religious reflection and preparation for death. By daily exercise of mind and body he preserved both in full vigor. His curiosity about public events and daily occurrences continued, and some of his last thoughts were on his country, its prosperity, its improvements, its distinguished men, its relation with foreign powers. He was anxious that wise and good men should bear sway in our land, and that the intellectual, benevolent and religious institutions received from our forefathers, should be perpetuated.—*Tappan.*

**ATHERTON, DR. ISRAEL, M.M.S.S.** This gentleman was a native of Harvard, Massachusetts, and was graduated at Cambridge in 1762. He received his medical education under the able tuition of Dr. Edward A. Holyoke, of Salem, and commenced his practice at Lancaster, A.D. 1765, peculiarly qualified for the duties of his profession by his constitution, his benevolent and amiable temper, and his acquirements in medical science. He early became eminent, and practised with increasing reputation until the infirmities of age, accelerated by the fatigues and privations of a laborious calling, compelled him to retire from active employment. He retained his mental powers, and died as he had lived, collected and resigned, in 1822, aged 82 years.

Commencing his business with a vigorous and discriminating mind, Dr. Atherton made his knowledge from books subservient to his practice so far only as it assisted him in unfolding the great book of nature. He was governed by no system whose theory was not simple and defined, and which did not obviously lead to rational and judicious practice. At the period when he resolved upon his profession, preparatory knowledge was deemed in most country towns of little value, except for the pulpit or the bar; the practice of physic was only in name among the learned professions. He was the first, and for some years the only, physician in the county of Worcester, who had passed a course of collegiate studies, or commenced the profession of medicine under the advantages of a regular competent preparation; and for a long period the only one whose professional science seemed to entitle him to be made a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He lived, however, to witness what he ardently strove to promote, an emulation among the faculty to elevate their profession to a respectable standing in science and substantial usefulness; and to see the patronage and preference which the community had so generally extended to impostors, in a great measure withdrawn.—*Hon. O. Fiske.*

**BARD, DR. JOHN.** The subject of this memoir was of French descent; his ancestors preferring their faith to their country, became exiles under the provisions of the revocation of the edict of Nantes. His father, Peter Bard, on his arrival in America, immediately fixed himself on the banks of the Delaware, not far from Philadelphia, where he soon became attached to a neighbor and fellow exile. This lady was the daughter of Dr. Marmion, an English gentle-



JOHN BAIRD, M.D.





man, who, as appears from a manuscript journal kept by his wife, a woman of perhaps stronger sense than her husband and equal piety, had abandoned England, his home and his church, from the scruples of a misguided conscience. The sympathy of a similar fate seems here to have united those, whom, under other circumstances, difference of nation and language would probably have repelled. From the marriage which ensued, John Bard was the issue, born in February, 1716.

He received the rudiments of a polite and classical education at Philadelphia, and at the age of 14 or 15 years was, according to the custom of that day, bound apprentice to Mr. Kearsly, an English surgeon of good talents, but of so unhappy a temper, that his presence banished cheerfulness from his family. He treated his pupils with great rigor and subjected them to the most menial employments; to which, Dr. Bard has been heard to say, he would never have submitted, but from the apprehension of giving pain to his excellent mother, who was then a widow with seven children and a very moderate income, and from the encouragement he received from the kindness of her particular friend, Mrs. Kearsly, of whom he always spoke in terms of the warmest gratitude, affection and respect. Under such circumstances, he persevered to the end of seven tedious years, stealing his hours of study from sleep after the family had retired to rest, and before they arose in the morning. Before he was released from this thralldom he became acquainted with Dr. Franklin, of kindred mind, and no unequal fortune; whose friendship and cheerfulness brightened his leisure hours, whose example roused, and whose indefatigable industry stimulated his exertions and perseverance. This early intimacy was refined by a similarity of disposition into a lasting friendship, which ended only with their lives, and which, Dr. Franklin reminded him in a letter not long before his death, "had never been obscured by the slightest shade."

Dr. Bard first settled in his profession in Philadelphia, but after practising in that city about five or six years he was induced to remove to New-York, in the year 1746. By the urbanity of his manners, his professional talents, and the charms of his conversation, which was enlivened by an uncommon flow of cheerfulness, enriched by sound sense, and adorned by a large fund of anecdote, he so effectually recommended himself to the notice and friend-

ship of the most respectable families, that he was almost immediately introduced into a valuable scene of business, and very soon arrived at the first rank of professional eminence, which he retained through a long life of more than fourscore years.

From the confined circumstances of his education, Dr. Bard was neither classically nor professionally a learned man ; but he possessed a lively fancy, a sound judgment and a correct taste. He read with great delight the best authors, particularly the poets of his own language ; and whatever he read and admired, he made so completely his own, that he could recal it almost at pleasure to his memory, and would frequently surprise and delight his friends by long and appropriate quotations from authors he had not seen for many years. In his profession he read all the best authors of his day ; but his studies were rather select than general. Sydenham and Huxham were his favorites. He formed himself upon their plan, was so familiar with their histories of diseases and their rules of practice, that he applied them with great ease, and acquired from them a correct and happy talent in discriminating diseases, and such sound principles of practice, as rendered his own eminently successful.

About the year 1759 the city of New-York was alarmed by the arrival of a ship from Amsterdam, freighted for the transportation of Palatines, among whom a malignant fever had broken out during the passage, and destroyed a great number. On this occasion Dr. Bard was employed by the corporation to take proper measures to prevent the disease from spreading. The sick were quartered at a distance from the city ; but notwithstanding every attention, many of the passengers perished ; and, although the disease was confined within the limits of the hospital, it was communicated to every nurse and assistant, Dr. Bard only escaping. He immediately drew up a memorial, in which he represented the expediency of providing a pest house against similar occasions, which was immediately effected by the purchase of *Bedlow's Island* and the buildings upon it ; the care of which, with the appointment of health officer, was given to him. He was likewise appointed surgeon and agent for the sick and wounded seamen of the British navy at New-York.

Captivated by the pleasures and employments of a country life, Dr. Bard in the year 1778 retired to an estate he

possessed in Dutchess county. But the events of the American revolution having greatly injured his fortune, he again returned to New-York at the peace of 1783, and was received with the greatest satisfaction by most of his old friends who had remained in town, or who returned with him ; and although now far advanced in life, a good constitution and an active mind enabled him to discharge the duties of his profession with ease to himself, and much to the satisfaction of his patients. On the establishment of the Medical Society of New-York in the year 1788, he was unanimously chosen their president ; and in the year 1795 gave an eminent instance of his discernment and knowledge of diseases by pointing out, in an address to that body, the existence of the yellow fever, which then appeared in that city, and which he had not seen for forty years. On this occasion he met much opposition and some obloquy ; but he persisted in his remonstrances with his brethren and advice to his fellow citizens, until conviction, too fatally earned, silenced the most obstinate of his opponents. He likewise pointed out the sudorific plan of treating that fatal disease, which on good grounds is believed to have been more successful than any other which has been pursued.

At the bed side Dr. Bard was distinguished by an affectionate attention to the situation and feelings of his patients, a careful examination and correct discrimination of their diseases, and a diligent application of appropriate remedies ; so that, even when unsuccessful, he never had occasion to reproach himself with neglect, and seldom failed to obtain the gratitude and esteem of their friends. In his intercourse with his fellow practitioners, he was to all candid and sincere ; but between him and his particular friends, among whom he numbered Dr. Peter Middleton and Dr. John Jones, both men of distinguished reputation, there prevailed an unbounded liberality and confidence, which, whenever it exists between men of eminence in the profession of medicine, must redound greatly to the safety and happiness of their patients.

Convinced from his early youth of the great truths of natural and revealed religion, Dr. Bard never spoke on these subjects but with the utmost reverence. He would frequently take occasion from the wonders of creation and the beauties of nature, of which he was an enthusiastic admirer, to expatiate on the infinite wisdom and goodness of

the Deity; and on these occasions the feelings of his heart would glow in his language and glisten in his eye, and seldom failed to warm his hearers into a kindred enthusiasm. At his own peculiar lot, which was very far from what the world calls prosperous, he was never heard to murmur or despond; but resigning himself cheerfully to the dispensations of Providence, and pouring forth praises and gratitude for the blessings he enjoyed, he rose from every disappointment with renovated hope and more vigorous exertion.

The charms of his conversation were protracted to the latest period of his life; his vivacity and cheerfulness even then enlivened all companies into which he entered, and rendered his society peculiarly agreeable to young persons of both sexes, who never left him but with expressions of admiration and esteem. When surrounded by his friends he literally forgot all care, and would frequently beguile the time until young and old wondered how the hours had passed. Thus he lived, admired, respected and beloved. About a year before his death, he again retired into the country from the fatigues of business. In his eighty-fourth year, after a few days' illness, the first of which deprived him of his recollection, and saved him from the only circumstance he dreaded in death, the pain of parting from his friends, he closed his long, useful and honorable career on the 30th of March, 1799.

For the following very interesting detail I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. McVickar.\* The afternoon which preceded his fatal attack, was passed by the father at his son's house. He came, as usual, attended by his servant, (bearing before him two bottles of water from his own favorite spring, with which he contended, with an old man's partiality, none other could compare); occupied, as he was wont, his high backed elbow-chair, and was more than usual the delight and admiration of the family circle. As he sat looking at the brilliancy of the setting sun, the glories of creation seemed to remind him of his own sources of happiness, and he suddenly exclaimed, "I think I am the happiest old man living." Of the two following letters, the first contains the painful reverse of this picture, (at least to mortal eyes,) which the next morning exhibited: and the second, his character, drawn by a skilful,

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\* See Life of Dr. Samuel Bard by the Rev. John McVickar, Professor of Moral Philosophy and Rhetoric, Columbia College, New-York, 1822.

though, perhaps, partial pen, after that painful scene was over.

"I write to you, my dear friends, from the sick chamber of our revered parent, who is in a situation which fills us with the greatest apprehensions for his life. On Friday morning, (having parted from us the night before in remarkably good health and spirits,) his servant found that on awaking he spoke incoherently ; he, however, attempted to rise, but returned to bed before he left the chamber. On arriving, I found him with symptoms that indicated an approaching palsy, his ideas incoherent, and his articulation very bad ; so that, at his age, I dare not encourage either myself or you with any hopes of his recovery. Our consolation is that he suffers no pain, lying, for the most part, in a sweet sleep, except when we arouse him to administer a little nourishment ; and farther, that no one circumstance is wanting which can either alleviate uneasiness, or add, in the smallest degree, to his comfort ; and that his enjoyment of life, to the last moment, was such as to be the continued theme of his discourse, and of gratitude to Almighty God.

*"Hyde Park.*

Yours affectionately, S. B."

"MY DEAR SON,—Since the death of your dear and venerable grandfather, such a crowd of business has pressed upon me, as almost to prevent me from reflecting upon my loss ; certainly, to lessen my sense of the bereavement we have sustained. Indeed his death was attended by circumstances which afford the most effectual consolation ; and such a life as his, terminated by such an exit, must be our best wish for ourselves and our friends. And when I reflect on his unblemished honor, unbounded philanthropy and unexampled cheerfulness, his unsubdued fortitude which never sunk under the pressure of the severest misfortunes, his persevering industry which never quitted him to the last, his steady friendships, his tender attachment to every branch of his family, and his exalted piety which continually called forth a flow of gratitude for his good fortune, forgetting every circumstance of ill, I glory in him as a parent, and recommend him to you as a most worthy example for your imitation. Your affectionate father,

"S. B."

The writings of a professional nature, which Dr. Bard has left, are an interesting essay on the nature and cause of the malignant pleurisy, which proved so remarkably fatal

to the inhabitants of Huntington and some other places on Long-Island in the winter of 1749, drawn up at the request of a weekly society of gentlemen in New-York, and addressed to them at one of their meetings, January, 1749 ; a case of extra-uterine fœtus, published in the London Medical Observations and Inquiries ; and several papers on the nature and character of the yellow fever and the evidence of its importation into this country, (published in the American Medical and Philosophical Register, edited by Drs. Hosack and Francis). In the year 1750 Dr. Bard assisted Dr. Middleton in the first dissection of a human subject in America of which we have any record. In all his writings he evinced a strong mind, sound judgment and correct observation, which will ever reflect honor on his character.

In September, 1761, the beloved and most dutiful son of Dr. Bard at the age of nineteen, was about to embark for Europe to receive his medical education. The following is an extract from a letter of advice, handed to him at parting, which richly merits being recorded here.

“ With regard, my dear Sam, to your moral conduct, I do not flatter you, when I assure you I have the greatest confidence in your piety, prudence and honor : still a severe test of all these is now approaching, since you are going to a part of the world where you will be surrounded with allurements. Your greatest security will lie in the first choice of your company. If, according to all your former conduct, you associate with men of sense and business, of sobriety and honor, and with ladies of character and family, your time will be most agreeably and honorably filled up between a course of business and of pure and refined pleasure. This will render all your correspondence with the world easy and delightful, and enlarge your sphere of valuable connexions and friends. On the contrary, should you suffer yourself to be captivated with the idle or the gay, so far as to give in to their schemes of dissipation, you cannot tell how far the powers of your mind may become enervated, and by habit lose that manly firmness which is the principal guard to a generous, virtuous and innocent life. Remember, my dear Sam, a maxim of Gay, ‘ Plant virtue, and content ’s the fruit.’ I do recommend to you, in a very particular manner, to attend upon the public worship of God constantly, at least every Sunday, which your piety, I hope, will naturally prompt





VANDERLYN P.

M'CLELLAND DEL.

W. MAIN P.

SAMUEL BARD, M.D. F.R.S. F.R.C.P.



you to ; and arm yourself against any arguments you may accidentally be exposed to, that have a design to lessen the authority and excellency of the christian religion. Be assured that it is not only more right in itself, but infinitely more honorable and becoming the character of a gentleman, to appear an advocate on the side of religion, than to give the least countenance to the schemes of deism and infidelity. The greatest and the best of men have always been on this side ; and these are the characters I would advise you to emulate. I do sincerely beg of God to bless you in all your undertakings, and am your affectionate father,

“JOHN BARD.”

In another letter this pious parent says, “Above all things, my dear son, suffer not yourself by any company or example, to depart, either in your conversation or practice, from the highest reverence to God and your religion ; always remembering that a rational and becoming view of these duties, is the most likely means of influencing your moral conduct, and is, in truth, the brightest ingredient in a gentleman’s character, naturally producing not only that decent, chaste and polite style in common conversation, so essentially necessary in one of your profession ; but also laying the foundation of a virtuous and honorable life.”—*Hosack and Francis, Med. and Phil. Register, and Rev. Mr. McVickar’s Life of Samuel Bard.*

BARD, SAMUEL, M.D. LL.D., son of the preceding, was born in Philadelphia April 1st, 1742. He was placed at the grammar school of Mr. Smith, a teacher of considerable merit. Of precocity of talent no evidence appears ; the few anecdotes, however, related of his youth, show the peculiar traits of his character to have been rather a felicity of nature, than the tardy fruits of discipline. He was regarded at school “as a quick, industrious and amiable child :” and of the opinion entertained of his ability at home, the different treatment of him and his brother, prescribed to the master by their observant mother, affords a simple, but strong proof. “If Peter,” said she, “does not know his lesson, excuse him—If Sam, punish him, for he can learn at will.” It would, however, be doing injustice to his own acknowledgment, to allow nothing to the careful discipline of a watchful father. He attributed no small portion of the veneration with which he regarded that first of moral virtues, veracity, to the severe les-

son which once attended an early departure from it : To screen from punishment a servant boy of about his own age, who had broken his father's cane, he falsely took the blame upon himself ; the deceit being discovered, his father praised his generosity, but punished his falsehood. His narration of this circumstance seventy years after its occurrence, shows the strength and value of such early impressions. The lesson he then received, he transmitted to his children ; " any fault," he used to say, " may be excused, but want of truth." Nor was he less indebted to the tender care and valuable instructions of his mother, who planted early and deep in his mind the seeds of the truest wisdom. In a paper of religious reflections bearing the date of his seventy-first year, he thus commemorates it. " I thank God for the tender and affectionate care of my dear mother through the hazards of a sickly infancy, and for having impressed upon my mind, almost from the first dawns of reason, an early sense of religion."

When about the age of fourteen, his constitution, which from infancy had been feeble, received so severe a shock by a continued fever, that his father judged it prudent to remove him, for a time, both from the city and his studies. He accordingly passed the ensuing summer at Coldenham, in the family of one of his father's most intimate friends, Cadwallader Colden, lieutenant governor of the Province. His residence not only restored him to health, but filled his memory with pleasing recollections both of the society and studies to which it introduced him. In this family resided Miss Colden, well known as the correspondent of Linnæus, and in whose honor the Coldenia bears its name in the Linnæan Catalogue. With this lady, differing in years, but united in tastes, Mr. Bard formed an intimate friendship ; under her instruction he became skilful in botanizing, a pursuit which ever remained to him a favorite amusement, and which owed, perhaps, a part of its attractions to the pleasing associations with which it was originally connected, since to the end of life he never mentioned the name of his instructress without some expression of admiration or attachment. Nor was the obligation unreturned ; with a degree of native taste, which through life made him a delicate, if not a critical judge of painting, he had united at this early age much practical skill, which enabled him to double the value of his companion's botanical researches by perpetuating their transient beauties or

peculiarities. The delicate respect paid him on the following occasion, excited a feeling of gratitude proportioned rather to his own embarrassment, than the importance of the circumstance. The first day of his arrival, Mr. Colden being absent, he was called upon at the dinner table to ask a blessing ; through confusion or forgetfulness he began the Lord's prayer : he had not proceeded far, before he was sensible of his mistake, and overwhelmed with confusion ; casting, however, a timid glance around, he became reassured by the composed looks of the ladies, his auditors, and so proceeded gravely to its close. To this mistake they never made, he said, the slightest allusion, until the intimacy of friendship justified a smile at his long and unusual grace.

Young Mr. Bard received his classical instruction at King's, now Columbia College. His father placed him as a private pupil in the family of the classical teacher, regarding the studies of that department as the broad basis of a refined and liberal education. Dr. Leonard Cutting then filled that professorship with conspicuous ability. He applied in full force that great instrument of learning, repetition, "line upon line," making his pupils thorough in all they learned, and by frequent perusal filling their memories with the language, and imbuing their feelings with the spirit of the great authors of antiquity. By such instruction Mr. Bard added to the number of those of that school who were distinguished for classical purity, and he always spoke of his teacher, not only in terms of affection and respect, but as one to whose refined taste and critical acuteness, he owed whatever he himself possessed of either. Industrious by nature, it was here that Dr. Bard laid the foundation of that habit of early rising which doubles the powers both of body and mind ; a practice from which, in the remainder of his life, he never swerved, but always most earnestly recommended to the young around him, as the greatest source of health, of leisure and enjoyment. Daylight in summer, and an hour previous to it in winter, seldom found him in bed, and this practice trained him to habits of strict economy of time, and a vigorous employment of it.

In the choice of a profession, his father's wishes coincided with his own ; while his opening talents were viewed by a partial parent in so strong a light, as to determine to

attempt educating him abroad : a plan much more consonant with his inclinations, than with his means. The school of Edinburgh was at this time in the highest repute, and this was selected as the great source from which the young pupil was to derive his medical education, and form his character for future life. After much anxious preparation, at the early age of nineteen, young Mr. Bard bade adieu to his native country with a mind stored with such learning as the colonies then afforded, and a heart not untutored by parental instruction. He embarked in September, 1761, at a period when Great Britain was at war with France ; nor did young Bard escape the hazards which attend a sea voyage under such circumstances ; the first intelligence which his anxious father received from him, was contained in a letter dated Bayonne Castle, announcing that in three weeks after leaving New-York he fell into the hands of the enemy, and was in confinement. It was fortunate for Mr. B. that Dr. Franklin, a close friend of his father, then resided in London as agent for several of the colonies. By his kind offices the gloom of a prison was exchanged for the freshness and freedom of the country, and after five months' residence in France he proceeded on his way to London. In a letter to his father he says, " But although I cannot charge myself with any unnecessary extravagance, except it was purchasing a German flute and employing a teacher, in order to pass my time with some little content in the prison, I have, during my stay in France, together with my expenses on my voyage and journey from Plymouth, spent near forty pounds sterling. I am afraid you will think this a very extravagant sum ; but I do assure you that there was not twenty shillings, (except my flute) which I spent unnecessarily." Upon the great object of his visit he now entered with that diligence and zeal, which through life marked his character. During the whole of his five years' residence abroad, his correspondence with his father and family was full and frequent. His letters bespeak good sense and warm feeling, and never failed to cheer the heart of his fond parents and friends. His letters of introduction were to the first characters, by which he became immediately introduced to Drs. Fothergill, Hunter, Smith of St. Thomas's Hospital, Mackenzie and others. The gentleman under whose peculiar instruction he placed him-

self, was Dr. Alexander Russell, an able and amiable man, well known by his various communications to the Royal Society and other writings.

He quitted London in September, 1762, and repaired to the great medical school at Edinburgh. Here, as in London, he enjoyed the privilege of associating with characters of the first eminence. "I attend," says he, "three classes, Drs. Cullen, Monro and Ferguson. Cullen, professor of chemistry, lectures in English in a clear, nervous style, and with a natural, strong tone of voice. He has a new way of examining his pupils in his lecture room; and, as I was recommended to his notice, he did me the honor this winter to commence with me; from which I would rather have been excused, for I was not a little confused to be thus questioned before above a hundred students, who all had their eyes fixed upon me, to hear my answers; however, I came off with flying colors." The application of his time, as given by himself, affords no weak proof of firmness of mind. Young and ardent, away from home, and surrounded by the temptations of a large metropolis, it affords an honorable example of the conscientious performance of duty, and a lesson, not without its use, to those who may be similarly circumstanced. "My day, in general," says he, "is thus spent: from seven to half after ten I am at present employed in the mathematics, which will soon, however, be changed for professional reading and the examination of my notes; I then dress, and am by eleven at college, attending Professor Ferguson until twelve; from that hour until one, at the hospital; from one till two, with Dr. Cullen; from two to three, I allow to dinner; from three to four, with Monro in anatomy; from four to five, or half an hour after, I generally spend at my flute and taking tea, either at a friend's room, or with a friend in my own: after this I retire to my study, and spend from that time until eleven o'clock in connecting my notes, and in general reading. This is the plan I have set down to myself, and am resolved to stick close to it, for the winter at least. In the summer I shall not be so busy, but have a little time (if I do not go to London) to amuse myself with botany, and seeing the country; then you shall have as long letters as you please from me, for there is nothing I take more pleasure in than writing to you, unless it be in hearing from you, for in either of

these, especially the last, I cannot help imagining myself conversing with you. I am very much obliged," he goes on to add, "by the good opinion my New-York friends entertain of me, and hope I shall never, by any negligence of mine, disappoint them. If liking a profession be a good omen of proficiency, I can assure you I begin to be most highly delighted with mine; I daily discover so many beauties in it, that I am at a loss which first to investigate; and, were it not for the regular plan I have laid down, should be bewildered and lost in the labyrinth." To a zeal thus grounded in love, no labors seemed arduous, nor any aims too lofty to be attempted. This is evinced in another letter to his father, in which he suggests, at that early day, the establishment of a medical school in the city of New-York; a plan which, in his riper years, he effected, and to which his grey hairs brought reverence. At this period the University of Edinburgh was in a flourishing state: Robertson, the historian, was its principal; Rutherford, Whytt, the two Monros, father and son, Cullen, Hope, Ferguson, Gregory, and Blair, were its teachers and supporters. Under such men was Dr. Bard trained, and at this pile was that torch lighted, which subsequently inflamed many kindred bosoms. Of his teachers he appears to have enjoyed (so far as a young stranger can be supposed to do) the friendship as well as instruction; was received as an inmate into the family of Dr. Robertson, and kept up a frequent correspondence with his London instructors, especially Dr. Fothergill. With Cullen's lectures he was peculiarly delighted; in matter he styles him, "that accurate professor;" and of his manner he says, "I own I think nothing can exceed it, being so entertaining as well as instructive, that I could listen to him with pleasure for three hours, instead of one." Of Monro's anatomical lectures he speaks highly, and comparing him with Hunter says, "but for want of opportunities of dissection, I should have no occasion to regret the change from London; but to have a subject in my possession here, would impose the risk of banishment, if not of life." In his letters he frequently expresses a strong sense of gratitude for his father's "bounty;" "I do assure you, sir, I never think of the great expense you are at in my education, without sentiments of the warmest gratitude; at the same time I feel much uneasiness lest it should fall

heavily on you." "I am laying out to the best advantage now, to return it double when we come to a reckoning." "Last week the judges for the annual medal, given by the professor of botany of this university, examined the *Hortus Siccus* of the candidates, and I have the pleasure to acquaint you decided in my favor ; in consequence of which determination the medal is to be publicly given to me some time in April by Dr. Hope." In another letter, "I cannot omit this opportunity of sending you a copy of the papers I read before the medical society this winter ; they may perhaps afford you half an hour's entertainment, and let you a little into the nature of that institution of which I informed you some time ago that I was admitted a member." "In the year 1737 this society was first organized by Drs. Cullen, Akenside, and some others, who are now at the head of their profession here or in London ; and since that time it has had many members, who have become ornaments to society. As is natural, it has undergone many changes, and now consists of between twenty and thirty members, who meet every Saturday evening in a room in the infirmary, when they dispute upon medical subjects in the following manner : each member has, about six months beforehand, a set of papers given him, to write a comment upon, consisting of a practical case, a question on some medical point, and an aphorism of Hippocrates. Every Saturday a set of these papers is produced and read before the society by the author, having circulated for a week before amongst the members, who come prepared with objections, and the author with arguments to defend them. In this exercise of disputation we spend about four hours, and to very good purpose, for we are obliged to muster our whole stock of knowledge, to defend opinions, which are never allowed to pass without being thoroughly examined ; and as there are always a number of members, men of real knowledge, we young men are not allowed to be carried away by false reasoning, nor led into erroneous opinions." The following letter contains gratifying information to his father ; "I am at present engaged in a variety of studies ; besides my college duties, I have two private tutors who attend me. With one, I spend an hour every day in writing and speaking Latin ; with the other, French : and also three hours in the week with a most excellent drawing master. So many branches, together

with reading practical authors, entirely fill up my time, and are attended with considerable expense ; but I hope I shall never repent it, and that it will one day be returned to me with interest. I sent you sometime ago, a letter from Dr. Hope ; since that the medal has been publicly given to me, and the enclosed paragraph published on the occasion. I had an opportunity this winter of showing my preparations to Dr. Pulteney, a man of eminence in the literary world, and fellow of the Royal Society ; he praised them much, and assured me they exceeded any in the British museum. He presented me on going away, with a thesis, with the following compliment on the first page :—

FROM THE AUTHOR, TO MR. BARD,  
AS A SMALL TRIBUTE OF RESPECT DUE TO HIS SUCCESS  
IN  
CULTIVATING BOTANICAL KNOWLEDGE.

In the following letter we find the father's fond anticipations, and the arduous toils of the son in a good measure consummated.

*Edinburgh, May 15th, 1765.*

“ MY DEAR FATHER,—My work being now over, and my mind at ease, I lay hold of the first opportunity of spending an hour with you, and communicating to you a little of the satisfaction I myself feel. The day before yesterday I received my degree, with all the form and ceremony usual upon such occasions. The two Monros, with Dr. Cullen, were in all my private examinations. My good friend Dr. Hope publicly impugned my thesis ; and to all of them I consider myself much indebted for their behavior on this occasion, in which, although they kept up the strictness of professors, they never lost sight of the politeness of gentlemen.”

Dr. Bard described his private instructor as a man “ learned and ingenious, but at the same time bold and dogmatic ;” nor will medical men be inclined to dispute the justice of this description, when it is added that it relates to Dr. John Brown, afterwards so well known as the author of the Medical Theory which bears his name ; a pathology so simple in its principles, and so easy in its application, as to have been liable to great practical abuse. In the lectures of Dr. Blair Mr. Bard took great delight ; they gratified a naturally delicate and discerning taste,



which fitted him to excel in such studies. On one occasion the ability he displayed in the criticism of a paper submitted to him, drew from the professor a marked public commendation. In a mind of such a temperament, praise stimulated exertion, and not a little of his subsequent fondness for these studies and ability in them, may be traced to the assiduity with which he then cultivated them. In this art Dr. Bard was no mean proficient. In after life he always commanded in public delivery, a degree of attention, which went far beyond the claims of his figure or voice ; but which was the result of graceful gesture, correct emphasis and, above all, the nice discrimination and animated expression of the sense and feeling of that which he delivered. Dr. Bard was an orator of no common stamp ; he threw his heart into his words, and from the fulness of his own, poured persuasion into the breast of others. The letter of recommendation which Dr. Bard received from the medical society on his departure, has the sign manual of each of its members, among whom may be found the names of some whom kings have since "delighted to honor," and what is more to their credit, who have themselves done honor to their profession. Among such may be mentioned, Saunders of London, and Sir Lucas Pepys, physician to the late king ; Percival of Manchester ; Professor Duncan of Edinburgh ; Professor Parsons of Oxford ; Haygarth, and Watson of Cambridge, and Professor Morgan of Philadelphia ; names widely scattered, yet indebted, perhaps, to this early union for the first excitement of that native talent which subsequently rendered them conspicuous.

Of his Thesis "*de viribus Opii*," which he defended at his examination, medical men have spoken with great respect. Soon after its appearance, it attracted the attention of Haller, and recently has been quoted by Crumpe in language singularly respectful for an academical thesis, but not perhaps beyond its merits, if we look to the philosophical manner in which its materials were collected. Having selected as his subject, the effects of opium on the human system, which in common with his teachers he regarded as a stimulant, he instituted a set of experiments, first upon himself, and subsequently upon a fellow student to test, or rather to verify, that opinion. His room-mate, Dr. Saunders of London, submitted, upon the offer of re-

ciprocal aid, to be the subject of this experimental analysis. The experiments were frequently and carefully repeated ; and the results accurately noted. His facts being thus obtained, he proceeded with his inductions, and concluded, if not with truth, at least with singular freedom from prejudice, in the opposite opinion from that which he had proposed maintaining. Whether that opinion be right or wrong, the mode of arriving at it was creditable alike to his candor and his enterprise ; it evinced an openness to conviction and a fairness of mind, which form not only the basis of moral excellence, but the corner stone of true philosophy. In fulfilment of his offer, Mr. Bard became in his turn the subject of a series of experiments to his fellow student. Their object, it is believed, was the operation of Ammonia ; but, whatever it was, they were either less safe in their nature, or less cautiously conducted ; since a state of torpor, which continued several hours, was in one instance their result, and probably checked, for the time, the zeal of these young experimentalists. This thesis, thus carefully prepared and ably defended, admitted Mr. Bard to his medical degree. His diploma bears date September 6th, 1765, and has the signatures affixed of the two Robertsons, Rutherford, the two Monros, Whytt, Hope, Young, Hamilton, Cumming, Ferguson, Russell, and Blair. With the botanical professor he was a great favorite. " My good friend, Dr. Hope," is his ordinary designation of him ; and he justly felt it no small praise to be thus distinguished in botany by the friend of Linnæus. The particular intimacy with Dr. Monro, of which Dr. Bard speaks in one of his letters, related to the younger of that name ; one whom he resembled much in character, and not less in fate. Four years older than his pupil, Monro died the same number of years before him ; both rising to the highest eminence in their profession, and in the medical schools of their respective countries ; both retaining, amid the bodily weaknesses of age, all their mental vigor, and each closing his academical career by the delivery of a valedictory discourse in the seventy-seventh year of life ; Monro to his medical class, and Dr. Bard to the graduates of the college over which he presided.

Among the traits of character which distinguished Dr. Bard throughout life, was an insatiable inquisitiveness of

mind, which led him, wherever he was, to ransack and examine whatever came within his reach, whether of art or nature. Minerals, plants, animals, man and his works, were rapidly and by turns the object of his attention. Whatever was rare or beautiful or useful, immediately seized upon his imagination, and afforded matter for curious investigation, or a basis for ingenious theory. Even while engaged in his medical studies, the various branches of the arts and manufactures and of agriculture, received a share of his inquiry and pursuit. Having completed his course of medical education, he employed some time in an excursion through the most interior parts of Scotland, and various parts of England, and the scenes which presented afforded him the highest gratification, to which he often afterward alluded with the feelings of enthusiastic admiration. But from some unknown cause he was disappointed in the execution of his project of a continental tour. A visit to the celebrated University at Leyden he had long contemplated with delight. Boerhaave he venerated as one of the greatest and best of men, whose character he recommended to the young as a model for their imitation, and a high and encouraging picture of what virtue and industry can perform. He may even be said to have closed his professional career with his name upon his lips, as the last discourse he delivered to the medical graduates concludes with a forcible delineation of the character of this great man, as the best embodied picture he could give them of the perfection at which they should aim. Of his last visit to Dr. Fothergill he told the following anecdote. After much salutary advice, suitable to a parting visit, Dr. F. concluded with what he termed the secret of his own success ; " I crept," said he, " over the backs of the poor into the pockets of the rich." It would be doing injustice to a character of more than common philanthropy, to interpret this as a recommendation of coldhearted selfishness ; as such it was neither intended nor felt ; but as a prudential maxim, which Dr. Bard often himself repeated, and enforced upon young physicians, viz. : that the basis of their practice and their fame, to be permanent, should be laid in the opinions of the many, and thus growing up by insensible degrees, it would be free from the dangers that attend on a premature reputation or a narrow and wavering patronage.

After a five years absence Dr. Bard was restored to his anxious and longing parents. The emotions excited by their first interview have already been noticed in the preceding article ; and it may here be added that his cousin, Miss Mary Bard, a lady highly accomplished and of personal beauty, was then residing in his father's family, who had previously enjoyed his affection, and was soon to consummate his happiness. The expenses of Dr. Bard's education had exceeded one thousand pounds, and his father was involved in debt. He entered at once upon the exercise of his profession in partnership with his father, devoting himself to it with his native enthusiasm and faithful perseverance. For three years he drew nothing from the profits of their joint business, which amounted to near fifteen hundred pounds per annum, beyond his necessary expenses, allowing all the remainder that he might justly have claimed, to go towards the liquidation of debts which, in honor, he regarded as his own. Considering himself, after that time, as exonerated from all other claim than that of gratitude, he proceeded to form a more tender and more lasting union by fulfilling his engagement with his cousin ; and trusting to Providence and his own exertions, the marriage took place upon the slender stock of one hundred pounds ; "wisely calculating," as he often observed with a smile, "that his wife's economy would double his earnings." Nor in this loverlike conclusion can it well be said that he was mistaken. With this lady he was destined to pass a period equal to the ordinary duration of human life ; and in its joys and sorrows to find her, to use his own expressive language, "a steady, judicious and affectionate friend, and a dear and excellent wife."

Dr. Bard's early formed plan of a medical school, was not abandoned by him on his return from abroad ; but, instead of the youthful assistants originally proposed, he had the higher credit of exciting older and abler men to the task. Within a year after his return it was organized, and united to King's College. His associates were Drs. Clossy, Jones, Middleton, Smith, and Tennant ; while to him, then but in his twenty-eighth year, was given by common consent the most responsible and influential department of the practice of physic. Thus early did he begin to repay his debt of education to this literary institution, which for forty years he continued to serve, as circumstances demanded, in almost every branch of experimental and medical

science ; and for the last twenty years of his residence in the city, as Trustee and Dean of the Faculty of Physic. Medical degrees were first conferred by this school in 1769, when a public address was delivered by Dr. Bard, in which he displayed that persuasive eloquence with which he always urged a good cause. On the 16th of May, being the day of its annual commencement, he delivered, before the officers of the college and the governor and council of the Province, a discourse in which he enforced the usefulness, or rather necessity of a public hospital, and the propriety of its immediate establishment, as the most efficient means of relief to the suffering poor of the city, and of instruction to medical students. So convincing were his arguments, or so well timed the appeal, that it aroused the individual upon whom it was, perhaps, most intended to operate. Sir Henry Moore, governor of the Province, as soon as the address was closed, expressed warmly both his admiration of the speech, and his patronage of the plan ; and immediately headed a subscription paper with the sum of two hundred pounds. This was followed with proportional liberality by the members of the council, and other gentlemen present, and the sum of eight hundred pounds sterling was on the same day collected. The city authorities added to the number of its patrons, and a suitable structure was erected ; but, when on the point of completion, the building was entirely destroyed by an accidental fire, so that this noble design remained unaccomplished until the year 1791. From that period until his retirement, Dr. Bard continued to be its visiting physician, in which he never omitted a single day. In this excellent discourse of Dr. Bard, he exposed the unreasonable and dangerous practice which then prevailed of the charges of physicians being grounded solely on the medicine given to their patients ; thus unjustly depriving them of any remuneration for that wherein alone the value of the services consisted, and exposing them to the constant temptation, if not absolute necessity, of making prescriptions often needless, and sometimes hurtful. This bold expostulation probably tended to hasten the change which soon afterward took place on this point.

In the year 1772 Dr. John Bard, the father, removed to Hyde Park, his country residence, and his city establishment was purchased by his son, who entered at once into his father's circle of practice, out of the profits of which he

continued for five years to allow him a large proportion. In 1774 Dr. Bard added to his existing duties the labors of a public course of chemical lectures. But when, in the year 1775, the sword was about to be unsheathed, and a mighty contest for liberty was to be decided, Dr. Bard was found among many other upright and patriotic men who could not at once shake off their reverence for the obligations under which they had been born, and educated, and prospered ; and the native tenderness of his heart rendered him averse to all acts of violence. Towards the end of the year he placed his wife and children under his father's roof at Hyde Park, and he himself remained in New-York until the great question of peace or war should be decided. Finding, however, all hopes of reconciliation vain, and the torch of discord already lighted, he abandoned the city of New-York previous to the British army taking possession of it, joined his family at Hyde Park, and after various removals took up his residence in New-Jersey. But in the following year, finding he could engage in no employment which would enable him to provide for his family, and learning that his property in New-York was wasting in his absence, he came to the resolution of returning to the exercise of his profession in that city. He obtained permission to return thither, and on his arrival found his house in other and unfriendly hands ; and it was still more difficult to resume the exercise of his profession. The government viewed him with suspicion, and his former intimates with a prudent coldness. His father's residence within the American lines, and his brother's holding a commission in the continental army, seemed to justify this caution ; while the moderation and candor of his character were in those days of hostile zeal misconstrued, or unappreciated. He remained a considerable time without a professional call, and was reduced literally to his last guinea. Walking down the Broadway in a melancholy mood, his mind filled with painful forebodings, a wife, two sisters and five children, all dependent on exertions he had no opportunity to make, he was accosted by a former friend whom he had not before met ; this was Mr. Matthews, then mayor of the city, whose well known loyalty and official standing setting him above all low suspicion, he not only addressed Dr. Bard with his accustomed cordiality, but immediately on some slight pretext requested his professional attendance at his house. His frequent let-

ters to his American friends, had given color to a malicious accusation preferred against him of maintaining a treasonable correspondence. The commandant was just issuing an order for his arrest, when Mr. Matthews entering, heard the name of Dr. Bard ; he immediately interfered, claimed him as his family physician and friend, pledged himself for the falsehood of the charge, and calling on Dr. Bard, gave him an opportunity to refute it. To suspicion now succeeded confidence ; his talents and professional skill rapidly extended his business, and wherever he found a patient, by his kindness and sympathy he made a friend. It may be allowed to one who has had experience of that watchful solicitude which characterized him at the sick bed, to say that in this he was a model to his profession. His disregard of self, and anxious tenderness for his patient originated a debt that could never be paid but in returns of gratitude ; and account for the fact of the permanent and grateful recollections that were entertained of his professional services twenty years after his retirement to the country. While these qualities gained him business and friends, his scientific character gathered around him a literary circle, with whom, after the labors of the day, he generally passed the evening. The late bishop Moore ; his old friends, Mr. Kempe, attorney general, and Lindley Murray, the grammarian ; and his new intimates, Dr. Nooth, superintendent of the hospital, and Dr. Michaelis, the son of the learned commentator, were his most frequent and acceptable guests.

Dr. Bard, in common with all good men, hailed with pleasure the return of peace ; to him, however, it was not without its anxieties, as the patriotism and honor of his conduct were again to undergo a scrutiny from heated, if not unfriendly, judges. Notwithstanding the advice of many who urged his removal, he trusted again to the uprightness of his motives, and was not mistaken. His countrymen knew how to distinguish between moderation and indifference ; and Washington, " the father of his country," by selecting him as his family physician, marked the opinion he entertained both of his character and medical skill.

A new enemy now assailed his domestic happiness : out of six children, four perished by a rapid and untimely fate ; two were buried in the same grave : one, a child of so much loveliness and promise, as to have called forth, in the anxious mind of its mother, the usual apprehensions of an

early death. The disease which thus desolated this happy family, was the scarlatina in its most virulent form. Children, parents, nurses and servants, were all seized with it ; and the delirium which rapidly ensued, added to the horrors of an infection, which already restrained or disabled their friends from giving assistance. Two children were hardly snatched from the grave, and recovered by slow degrees. As the mother's care ceased to be necessary, her health and spirits sunk under the greatness of her loss and her exertions ; and Dr. Bard was called to forget the feelings of the father in those of the husband. A deep melancholy settled upon her mind, which threatened almost the extinction of reason. Alive only to this great duty, he immediately gave up all attention to business and, for near a twelve month, devoted himself to her recovery with an assiduity and faithfulness which were fully repaid by success. During this period of sickness and affliction, a series of letters passed between Dr. Bard and his family connexions, the perusal of which could not fail to arouse the feelings of sympathy even in the most obdurate heart. The pious resignation and edifying devotion displayed, are among the finest traits of character in this excellent man.\* In the summer of 1784 Dr. Bard resumed the duties of his profession in the city of New-York, leaving his wife in better health, at the house of her uncle in New-Jersey. His religious feelings on the restoration of his wife's health, are expressed with pious gratitude in a prayer found among his papers.

Dr. John Bard, having suffered some losses after his retirement, was under pecuniary embarrassment, and writes thus to his son. "I view my affairs, so far as they are encumbered with debt, with great anxiety and pain ; and, old as I am, being blessed with a happy constitution, I find myself still disposed to exert myself in the most efficient manner to free my estate from this encumbrance ; which if I could do, I should, I think, leave the world with composure and ease." The appeal was not in vain ; his son had not forgotten his early debt of education, and immediately applied the whole of his accumulations, amounting at that time to five thousand guineas, to his father's relief, preferring this application of it to the most tempting specu-

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\* For the very interesting letters above mentioned the reader is referred to the *Life of Dr. Samuel Bard*, by Rev. John McVickar, New-York.



lations then opened to capitalists by the sale of confiscated estates. He accordingly relieved his father from his load of debt, and by his persuasions induced him to return to the exercise of his profession in New-York, in which he continued until the year 1797, when his son's projected removal determined his own; and he retired, for the last time, to close a long and chequered, but cheerful life, in the shades of his early retirement.

Dr. Bard's character having been displayed in the light of a son and husband, it remains but to show that the duties of a parent were fulfilled by him with equal tenderness and judgment. Out of ten children, but two had been spared to him; to these a third was afterward added, not only the child, but the companion and solace of his old age: and to their education he now devoted most of the leisure which busy days and broken nights afforded him. His numerous letters to his children exhibit a pleasing picture of the animated tenderness of his manner.\* Kind and judicious praise, as his letters indicate, was the medium by which Dr. Bard operated on the minds of his children; and seldom did a father succeed better in awakening a warm and generous enthusiasm to deserve it. In all their early performances they were sure to receive, in his animated commendation, a sufficient recompense for their exertions; and the applause which at first arose from parental fondness, became an excitement to what might be truly deserving of it. "The earliest recollection," says his youngest daughter, "which I have of my beloved father, is associated with the affectionate caress and animated praise he bestowed upon me, when, placed upon his knee, I repeated to him Thomson's Lavinia, which I had committed to memory during one of his short absences from home: it left a very strong impression upon my mind." Such was the parental discipline by which he guided the tender minds of his children. As they grew older, he became their companion and friend; leading them to unreserved communication of their actions and sentiments; counselling them in the language of affection; and resting all his influence on the attachment, and almost veneration, which his solicitude for their happiness excited. But with all this fondness he united perfect candor and plain dealing. This gained their confidence and ripened, as they grew up,

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\* See the production just referred to.

into the most reposing friendship : a bond which advancing years and commerce with the world, instead of weakening, strengthened, by enabling them better to estimate the value of such a friend and adviser.

While the general government were sitting in New-York, President Washington had recourse to Dr. Bard's professional skill in his own case. In a letter to a friend he says, "the President's complaint continues to amend, so that I have not the least doubt of effecting a perfect and, I hope, a speedy cure. It will give you pleasure to be told that nothing can exceed the kindness and attention I receive from him." It was a case of anthrax, so malignant as for several days to threaten mortification. During this period Dr. Bard never quitted him. On one occasion, being left alone with him, General Washington, looking steadfastly in his face, desired his candid opinion as to the probable termination of the disease, adding, with that placid firmness which marked his address, "Do not flatter me with vain hopes ; I am not afraid to die, and, therefore, can bear the worst." Dr. Bard's answer, though it expressed hope, acknowledged his apprehensions. The President replied, "whether tonight, or twenty years hence, makes no difference ; I know that I am in the hands of a good Providence." Dr. Bard, senior, was then called in consultation at the suggestion of General Washington, and by the blessing of that "good Providence" in which he trusted, his life was preserved to his country, at a period when it never more needed the counsels of his calm, prospective wisdom. The result of this illness was an intimacy with his patient, which Dr. Bard justly felt proud of. It continued unbroken until the removal of the seat of government to Philadelphia, an event which he much lamented for many and obvious reasons.

Temperance, exercise and early rising had strengthened a weakly constitution, and enabled Dr. Bard to go through a daily course of extraordinary professional labor. One of his early students thus speaks of a winter residence in his family. "He rose at the earliest hour ; at five o'clock he was superintending the studies of his son and myself, and engaged in preparing his public lectures ; from breakfast till night I saw no more of him, except in the streets on professional business ; there, indeed, himself, his phaëton and servant were to be seen at most hours both of the day and night."

Into his literary gratifications Dr. Bard carried all the ardor of his character ; he seized upon every new publication of merit with the avidity of a famished appetite, and during its perusal was both deaf and blind to all causes of interruption. This absorption of mind was so great in his latter years, as sometimes to be made the subject of good humored experiment ; of which he seemed to be unaware, as of every thing else that passed around him. On looking into a copy of the "Vicar of Wakefield" when it first came out, he reserved it for evening reading to his family. Commencing it at rather a late hour, his high relish of it would not permit him to lay it down until he finished it ; and his hearers not choosing to retire, he closed the volume as the morning sun was rising. In reading Shakspeare he not only delighted, but excelled ; and his graceful action was in just and harmonious accordance with the sentiment expressed. On questions of a moral and religious nature, where the arguments flow rather from the heart than the head, he was both powerful and persuasive ; not, indeed, in the nice distinctions of schoolmen, but in the energetic enforcement of broad and leading truths. He had here that peculiar tone of eloquence, which arises from full-hearted sincerity, a language that can neither be misunderstood nor counterfeited, and which never can be otherwise than persuasive and commanding.

Of personal courage Dr. Bard had a great share, but it did not arise from forgetfulness of danger, so much as from disregard to it. His mind was intent upon the duty to be performed, and weighed not the risk that attended it. A proof of this occurred during the revolutionary war, in which a fire burst out contiguous to a powder magazine in his neighborhood. Upon the sudden alarm his first thought and motion were to retreat with his family to a place of safety ; but, immediately checking himself with the recollection that the dreaded explosion might yet be averted, he committed his wife and children to the care of a friend, forced his way through the retreating crowd to the scene of danger, and was among the first who returned to the spot, and by whose exertions the fire was extinguished without accident. As another instance may be mentioned his conduct in the popular tumult, commonly called the Doctors' Mob, excited in the year 1788 against the physicians of the city, from suspicion of their robbing the grave yards. In this riot, which for two days set at

defiance both the civil and military force of the city, Dr. Bard exhibited a calm and dignified composure, which seemed to awe even the wild passions of the populace. Conscious of his innocence of the alleged charge, he resisted the most urgent solicitations to flee or conceal himself ; but, as the infuriated mob approached his house, ordered the doors and windows to be thrown open, and paced his hall in full view of them as they drew near. His calmness, or his character saved him : they approached with horrible imprecations ; gazed awhile in silence, and then passed on with acclamations of his innocence.

But Dr. Bard, like his favorite teacher Cullen, possessed a natural sensibility too keen for a calm and scientific surgical operator. The first operation he performed, he went through with a steady hand ; but fainted when he had bound up the wound : and, in a second, he operated successfully, but, it may be presumed, tremulously, since the expectation of it had made him pass the night in pacing his chamber. As a physician, this acute sensibility, so far from an impediment, was, in no small measure, the ground both of his popularity and success. It gave the warmth of friendship to professional formalities, inspired the patient with confidence in his care ; and, thus giving relief to the mind, paved the way for that of the body. To the friends of the sick his manners, or rather his character, was peculiarly comforting ; to the skill of a physician, he added the interest of a relative : they were satisfied that every thing was done his art could do ; that neither coldness, nor selfishness, nor the pursuits of pleasure or ambition, withheld him from any personal exertion. The comparison Dr. Bard once made use of, in a case of violent disease, will illustrate this excitement. " I feel," said he, " as if I had a giant by the throat, I must fight for life." He cautions young practitioners against a readiness to receive new names, new theories and new remedies. " New names are always deceiving ; new theories are mostly false or useless ; and new remedies for a time are dangerous. This rage for novelty pervades our profession, especially in this country. Hence our extended catalogue of new fevers, and hasty adoption of new remedies ; hence the unlimited and unwarranted application of mercury without weight, brandy without measure, and the lancet without discrimination ; and hence, I am afraid I may say, the sacrifice of many lives which might have been preserved,

had they been left to water gruel and good nursing." Dr. Bard was far from undervaluing the improvements of modern medical science ; which in one of his medical discourses he states as consisting in its " greater knowledge of the animal economy, the powers of a more effectual pharmacy, and the rules of a more enlightened practice, which prescribes with a view to definite and intermediate results." With respect to his communicating to his patients a knowledge of their danger he says, " There is in the human mind a principle of acquiescence in the dispensations of Divine Providence, which, when treated with prudence, seldom fails to reconcile the most timid to their situation. Such information I have generally found rather to calm perturbation of mind, than to increase danger or hasten the event of the disease. Whenever, therefore, the duties of piety, or even the temporal interests of friends, have demanded it, I have never hesitated making, and seldom or never repented such communication."

Having accumulated by his own industry the sum of fifteen hundred guineas, he sent it to Europe to be invested in the British funds ; the banker in whose hands it was deposited, failed, and the loss was announced in a letter ; his wife observed him to change countenance while reading it, and anxiously inquired its contents : " We are ruined," said he, " that is all." " If that be all," rejoined his calmer companion, " never mind the loss, we will soon make it up again." Such a spirit was contagious ; Dr. Bard took courage from the example of his wife, and returned to the task with cheerful resolution. The necessities of his father three times absorbed all his means, and involved him in debt ; but the same resolute and prudent management as often freed him, and eventually secured for their declining age, that happy medium of wealth, which the wise have ever preferred, as affording the greatest enjoyments with the fewest cares ; and which so fully answered all their desires, that they retired to the quiet of the country at a time when the extent of his practice, and the rising charges of the profession, would have doubled his fortune in the space of a very few years.

Dr. Bard continued devotedly attached to the hospital. He was one of the founders and physicians of the City Dispensary ; and an original and active member of the Agricultural Society of the state. His exertions contributed to the foundation of the first public library ; and, in short,

his heart and hand were with every scheme of benevolence and public improvement. In the year 1791 the trustees of Columbia College, with the co-operation of the medical society, reorganized the department of medicine, which the war of the revolution had broken up, at the head of which as Dean of the Faculty was placed Dr. Bard, who, anxious to contribute his personal exertions to the advancement of medical education, gave to the students in the wards of the hospital a course of clinical lectures. At the bedside of the patient Dr. Bard exhibited the finest model for imitation, as teaching not merely the learning, but the manners of the physician. His kindness, his patience, his minute inquiries, and cheering words of consolation addressed even to the poorest and meanest, had the value of moral, as well as medical instruction, impressing the minds of the students with a conscientious sense of the responsibility of life and health, which rested upon them. "Avoid," he used to say, "that affectation of quick discernment and hurried practice, which generally marks the ignorant and ostentatious, hurrying from patient to patient, without once reflecting on the mischief and misery they may occasion, and that life thus trifled away will one day be required at their hands." In one of his sketches of the good physician, he says "the physician who confines his attention to the body, knows not the extent of his art ; if he know not how to soothe the irritation of an enfeebled mind, to calm the fretfulness of impatience, to rouse the courage of the timid, and even to quiet the compunctions of an over tender conscience, he will very much confine the efficacy of his prescriptions ; and these he cannot do without he gain the confidence, esteem and even the love, of his patients."

The period was now approaching in which Dr. Bard thought that, consistently with duty and prudence, he might retire to the bosom of his family and the enjoyment of those quiet pleasures to which he had always been attached. He thought, too, that some pause for reflection should intervene between the business of life and its close ; and he resolved to carry into effect a plan, which most wise men propose, but few execute,—that of retiring voluntarily from the bustle of life. To this plan many objections were started and warmly urged by his friends. To the calculations of interest, he replied that he had enough ; to the predictions of after repentance, he was

content to answer that he was not afraid to try ; but against the solicitations of friendship, he found it difficult to maintain his resolution. His father's removal and his daughter's settlement at Hyde Park, at length decided him, and in the spring of the year 1798 he removed to his well known seat, within a short distance of his father's residence. During a temporary visit he made the year previous, in which his only son accompanied him, a sudden and violent illness reduced both his son and grandson to the brink of the grave. To watch over the declining age of a father who so tenderly loved him, was a consolation not long spared to Dr. Bard. His father survived their united removal to the country but two years, and then suddenly sunk, full of days, but free from the infirmities of age ; retaining to the very last that indescribable charm of manners and conversation, which attached to him both young and old, and enlivened every society with a continued flow of cheerful and unaffected good humor. These two years, though quickly passed, were long and gratefully remembered by his son. Upon his father's character he loved to expatiate ; while the firm health, the cheerful mind, and the many blessings which cheered the close of his life, were a subject to him of frequent thankfulness. For some time previous to Dr. Bard's removal from the city, an intimacy had subsisted between him and Dr. David Hosack ; and as soon as his removal was decided upon, he took him into partnership, partly with a view to his own relief at a period of much exertion, but principally that he might introduce to his large circle of patients one to whose medical skill he was content to transfer their safety.

Although Dr. Bard bade adieu to the city in the year 1798, the fearful epidemic (yellow fever) again making its appearance the same year, he resolved not to abandon his post when about to become one of anxiety and danger. Amidst that calamity he addressed his wife as follows. " I begin to grow very impatient, my dear Mary, to hear from you. Drop me a line by the post, to assure me of your health, of which I cannot bear the least uncertainty. As to myself, depend upon it, I will not deceive you ; and in case of necessity shall call for my friend, my nurse and comforter, without whose aid I can neither bear sorrow nor sickness, and who, I know, would not forgive me, was I to rob her of her share of either to which I must

necessarily be exposed." For this call her anxious affection did not wait ; but as soon as the existence of the fever was ascertained, and his stay determined upon, she instantly joined him to share together a risk which then seemed almost desperate. His fearless exposure of himself, wherever benevolence called him during that season of flight and alarm, was the means of rescuing many poor, deserted wretches from death, and still oftener, of bestowing upon them some comfort and consolation when relief was hopeless. But the aid he so liberally gave others he soon needed himself, being seized with the prevailing fever, in which his long tried companion was to him all that his warm pen had described her, " a friend, a nurse, and comforter." His life was spared to her affection and prayers ; and with her he returned to his longing family, who, during his absence and especially his sickness, had been a prey to the agonizing fears which their own apprehensions, or the hasty reports of others, excited.

From this period during the remainder of his life Dr. Bard made the country his permanent residence ; diversified, however, by occasional visits to his friends in town. Few men could bear the change from necessary to voluntary occupation so easily as Dr. Bard. The untired curiosity of his mind found a new and boundless range in the objects and employments of the country. His poetic enjoyment of the beauties of nature ; his taste in planning, and fondness for effecting improvements, and skill in directing them ; his desire of knowledge of whatever kind, and eagerness in acquiring it ; his early and active habits ; and, above all, the enthusiasm which stimulated and supported him in all his undertakings ; set him above the power of indolence, that " master vice," as Burke terms it, of our nature, and secured to him to the very last week of his life all his energy, activity and cheerfulness. It would not seem easy to crowd into life more sources of enjoyment than filled the twenty-three years of retirement which adorned and dignified the close of his career. All the descendants of his father were by degrees drawn around him ; his own children successively settled in life, and gathered into the circle ; his grand children grew up upon his knees, and as he looked upon the health and prosperity and promise with which he was surrounded, he looked, and felt and spoke, like a patriarch of a better age. But this is anticipating the picture of a later



period. At the time of his retirement his son was just completing his legal studies in the city, and his youngest daughter was his pupil and companion at home.

To illustrate the care with which he watched over and guided the formation of his son's character, it may not be amiss to give extracts from letters addressed to him about this time.

"MY DEAR WILLIAM,—I am very happy you express yourself pleased with your new studies ; and at the ardor with which you enter upon them. You possess very peculiar advantages in the affectionate attentions, as well as in the talents of Mr. P. of which, I doubt not, you will make the most, and return them by every mark of respect and regard to his interests. Amidst all your studies, however, remember to give a proper portion of your time to exercise and polite company ; the one is necessary to health, the other to cheerfulness. The manner in which you say your day is spent, is certainly good for profit, for pleasure and instruction, and, I hope, not injurious to health ; to prevent its being so, I would advise you to walk frequently, to stand upright when you study, as long sitting in a bent posture is always injurious to the digestive organs ; and now and then to ride an hour before dinner, which prevents accumulations of bile. Nothing grows upon a man so much as the habits of a sedentary life ; at the same time nothing is so pernicious. I beg, my dear boy, that for all our sakes you will pay due attention to this important advice. I have been practising the lessons received from F. in reading Shakspeare aloud ; at every new perusal I discover new beauties. Study him ;—to one destined to speak in public, there must be great advantage in a familiar acquaintance with his beautiful and expressive language." \* \* \* \* "If you had made an appointment with Dr. W. to attend his lecture, I think all the charming Miss C.'s in the world should not have detained you from it. Remember through life, that every man, and more particularly a literary man, thinks what he is engaged in of great importance, and although it may happen that you do not feel much interest in it, it is both prudent and polite to appear to be so. Besides, it is a good rule never to break an appointment : that is a sufficient excuse to leave any company." \* \* \* \*

"Employ more of your time in private visits ; you will

learn more of character in one family visit, than at a dozen entertainments, where you see all under the mask of false merriment." \* \* \* \* "I very much commend your resolution to take the advice of your uncle in all matters of politics, or, indeed, any other point of conduct in which you entertain the least doubt of your own judgment, which, however, I do not doubt, will be in general no bad guide, provided you have resolution enough to follow steadily the dictates of your own unbiassed opinion. Be open, my dear boy, to conviction ; but never suffer yourself to be led in opposition to your own judgment, unless in the case of friends whose age and experience qualify, and whose relationship authorizes them to give you advice." \* \* \* \* "Never become the hanger on of a party, nor suffer yourself to be carried beyond the bounds of sober judgment, when measures are the subject of dispute ; nor of candor and moderation, when men are : but on all occasions endeavor to think for yourself, and support a perfect independence both in your conduct and opinions." \* \* \* \* "The late unhappy occurrence between two of my friends, has filled me with grief and apprehension. In the fate of Mr. J. I lament the untimely death of an inoffensive and worthy man ; and I sincerely sympathize with the survivor, whose feelings on this occasion are probably such as to make him envy the fate of his antagonist. How tyrannical is that custom which can impose such cruel necessities on us ; and how unbecoming a wise and brave man to yield to its dictates ! Whatever may be our feelings on such occasions, the sacrifice of our cool and unprejudiced judgment can never be justified, and, at best, admits but of the weak excuse, that our passions were too strong for our reason and sense of duty. I know the answer to these arguments, and would acknowledge its force, were it put in our choice or within the limits of our duty, to live, or not, as we might choose. But when we reflect, on the contrary, that it is absolutely our duty to live, under any circumstances and trials to which it shall please God to subject us, and that there can be no valid excuse whatever, but selfdefence, for depriving another of his life ; this, and every other argument in defence of duelling must fall to the ground."

Dr. Bard thus addressed his son on his recovery from sickness :—"Your letter of last Sunday gave us all great pleasure, as it confirmed the good hopes with which I left

you of the complete re-establishment of your health. Yours may almost be called a resuscitation, and fills us all with joy and gratitude in proportion to our preceding despondency. I confess to you, my dear boy, that the near prospect of your death turned my thoughts very forcibly to a self examination how far I had fulfilled my duty in respect of your education ; and I felt some apprehension that in the conduct of it I had not paid that constant attention to the great object of religion, that its importance, my duty, and your happiness required. It has ever been my wish to build my own and my children's religious opinions on the great and fundamental truths of God's creation and government of the world. This leads to revelation, in which, as there is nothing impossible or unreasonable, so was it very necessary, that God should instruct us in the knowledge of His laws ; the practice of which alone can secure our happiness. And as the external evidences of God's power, and wisdom, and goodness, manifested in the works of creation, afford the most satisfactory and undeniable proofs of His existence and natural government of the world ; so, on the other hand, do the internal evidences of the christian revelation, manifested in the wisdom, purity and sublimity of its doctrines, prove most satisfactorily its divine origin, and His moral government. If you will but attentively read the life of our Savior, as delivered in the Gospels, and form your own opinion of his character and mission from his conduct, and what he says of himself, you will, I hope, find no difficulty in believing that he spake not solely from his own authority, but from that of Him who sent him, the great God and Father of us all. I advise you to enter upon this inquiry, and to devote, at least, a part of every Sunday to it : and I sincerely pray that God may enlighten your mind, and give you such conviction as will establish your principles, regulate your conduct, and secure your happiness."

We next find Dr. Bard addressing his only son on occasion of his marriage. "I rejoice, my dear son, in your present happiness ; and I rejoice, too, to find you are not so much intoxicated with it, as to suffer yourself to dream of its uninterrupted continuance ; because that conviction will induce you early and always to apply to the only remedy against those evils which you justly call unavoidable, since virtue itself is not secure against them,—I mean religion. This is our strong hold, our castle and rock of

defence, our refuge in times of adversity, our comforter under misfortune, our cheerful companion and friendly monitor in the hours of gladness and prosperity. ‘Who-so walketh uprightly, walketh surely’; and he is most likely to walk uprightly, who considers himself constantly under the eye and government of God and His Providence. This has ever been the joy and consolation of the good and wise; and is the only philosophy which can satisfy a reasonable mind, and reconcile us to what we daily see, and hear, and feel. But I am satisfied it is not necessary to press these reflections upon you; some expressions in your letter have led me into them, and I own I delight to dwell on them.” \* \* \* \* “I observe by your letter that some of your friends were to dine with you on Sunday; I will take occasion from this circumstance, to caution you against its becoming a habit; for, although I do not think it necessary to hear ‘seven sermons on that day,’ yet it should certainly be a day of rest both to yourself and servants; and should be spent in devotion, rational retirement from business and fashion, tranquillity, and, by the lower ranks, in cheerful relaxation from labor. Avoid it, therefore, for the sake of your servants, if not your own. You know there is nothing I have more at heart, than that you should deliberately form opinions for yourself upon every important duty or concern of life; and that, when you have settled your own opinions, you should steadily adhere to them, nor suffer yourself to be swayed by the breath of fashion, or the prejudice or custom of others: think for yourself.”

With what mutual pleasure the studies with his young pupil at home were pursued, it may be permitted to use her pen to describe. “My father’s time after his settlement in the country, was passed with much regularity: the principal part of my instruction he took upon himself. Arithmetic, geography, &c. occupied the early part of the morning; drawing and botany succeeded; and our studies generally ended with a walk in the woods, or a scramble among the rocks, in which I delighted to follow him. His pockets, on such occasions, were generally filled with such new plants as we could collect; affording a botanical lesson for the day, and specimens for future illustration. I had a little of his own fondness for drawing and plants, and look back with delight on the pleasure and employ-

ment I thus afforded him. An illustration of the system of Linnæus, and subsequently of Miss Rowden's botany, was the manner in which he made me unite these studies ; ornamenting every page or two with a group or basket of flowers, with some appropriate sentence, either from scripture, or our best poets. Thus uniting in my mind, as he ever endeavored to do, the cultivation of taste with religious and moral truth ; a favorite sentiment of his, which he often expressed in the words of Langhorne."

Soon after Dr. Bard became a resident in the country, his zeal in agricultural pursuits led him to unite in the formation of a county society of that nature, over which he was called to preside ; a tribute due not only to his scientific knowledge, but to the ardor with which he applied to its useful purposes. To this society, on its succeeding anniversaries, he addressed several discourses, which evince a union of much practical skill in farming with enlightened theory : and anticipated in some degree the course of Sir Humphrey Davy, in applying the powers of chemistry to elucidate the principles, and improve the practice, of husbandry. At a later period, when his friends Chancellor Livingston and Col. Humphreys introduced into the country the merino breed of sheep, Dr. Bard entered with more zeal, perhaps, than prudence into that speculation. One danger attending their introduction Dr. Bard early perceived and labored to obviate. Finding them liable to many new and fatal diseases, the nature and cure of these became a matter of the first importance, both to save the individuals, and to prevent infection. With this view he published a work entitled "The Shepherd's Guide," which, though small, was the result of much investigation, and repeated and careful experiment.

With all the scrupulousness of a moralist, Dr. Bard considered his medical skill as a talent committed by Providence to his charge, and one which he was bound to use diligently and conscientiously. These feelings prevented complete retirement from professional duties, and made him alive to every call of sickness in his neighborhood ; especially where poverty precluded remuneration, or where the case demanded experience beyond that of the resident physician. On these occasions he would break off from any occupation, however engaging, and run almost any personal risk, rather than fail in his daily visit ; and it was a moral lesson, which sometimes put to shame young-

er men, to witness such sensibility to duty and such vigor in its performance, in one whose age and services might so well have pleaded an apology for indulgence. At such calls he would often shake off indisposition that was confining him to his chamber, and throwing his cloak around him, mount his horse or chair, be for an hour the active and vigorous physician, and then return to the quiet and repose which his health required. His "patients' health," he was wont to say, he "considered as committed to his keeping,—his own as in the hands of Providence."

In compliance with his age and character, he was immediately on his settlement in the county of Dutchess, elected president of its medical society, in which station he labored to advance the interests and reputation of the profession by increased strictness in examinations for license, and by various schemes for its improvement.

It is, perhaps, to be regretted that Dr. Bard did not turn his attention more to public authorship. The clearness of his mental perceptions, the inductive character of his reasoning, and the manly vigor of his style, would have added much to his own celebrity, and somewhat, no doubt, to the advancement of science; while the warm tone of moral and religious earnestness which pervades all his writings, would have given them additional value, and served to wipe out from the character of his profession that base stain of irreligion, which has too long, and too unjustly, rested upon it. Upon this subject he thus expresses himself in one of his academical charges:—"Galen is said to have been converted from atheism by the contemplation of a human skeleton; how then is it possible that a modern physician can be an infidel!—one who is acquainted with the mechanism of the eye and the ear, with the circulation of the blood, the processes of nourishment, waste and repair, and all the countless wonders of the animal economy! He must be blind indeed, if he do not see in these the unquestionable marks of infinite wisdom, power and goodness."

Besides the works already mentioned, Dr. Bard's publications consist of a treatise written in the year 1771 upon "Angina Suffocativa," a disease which then appeared in the city under a new form, or with new virulence; another upon the use of cold in hemorrhage; many occasional addresses to public bodies; anniversary discourses to medical students; and, the largest of his works, a treatise upon

obstetrics, which was prepared by him after his retirement. This is a work of superior value, if not merit, from the salutary caution it teaches in the use of those instruments, which in rash and unskilful hands have rendered this part of the art rather a curse than a blessing.

Dr. Bard's literary habits were a model for literary men. His early hours, and active employment of them ; his great temperance, and habitual exercise, are habits which would go far, if adopted, in preserving the race of authors from those mental diseases which have become their proverbial inheritance ; and which arise much more from indolence of body or imprudent exertion of mind, than from that superior delicacy of temperament, to which they are willing to impute them. These habits saved him from the most melancholy accompaniments of age, and prevented that gloom which too often darkens the close of life ; and in his domestic letters there are pleasing evidences of a cheerful, virtuous and happy old age. Our extracts from them must of necessity be limited. February, 1802 ; " Our studies, business and amusements, fill every moment of our time, except what is devoted to food and sleep ; and in these we waste none. Whatever be the cold without, we banish it from within ; and our blazing hearth, around which each of us finds a comfortable seat, adds cheerfulness to comfort. Thus passes the even tenor of our days ; whilst you, perhaps, under the name of pleasure, are shivering at a feast, or rubbing your fingers and kicking your heels in the side box of the theatre. Healthy and at ease, we feel no want of amusement or variety. Work, conversation and books, fill up our day,—Cowper occupies our evening most pleasantly ; and in his letters to his friends continually reminds us of our own feelings ; except that, thank God, we know none of his depression ; a truth which, although I believe you need not be informed of, yet it will bear repetition, and I feel a pleasure in repeating it. He expresses, however, all our love for our friends, and all our impatience to meet again ; only much better than we can say it." December 22, 1805 ; " We are now settled in our plans of study for the winter ; I am much pleased with those I have adopted for the improvement of your sister. Between this delightful employment, the business of my farm, and the society of my family, my time is very pleasantly and fully filled up ; nor do I see in any of us the least symptom of ennui. I am deep in Asiat-

ic researches, and much interested in the study of that ancient and extraordinary people. As to myself, I never was better, and do my best to preserve the blessing. I spend two or three hours every day in the open air,—the rest of my time is divided between reading and writing ; so that I hope I shall not rust for want of use." \* \* \* \* "My horse is saddled regularly after breakfast, when I spend two hours abroad, this winter very often in the deepest recesses of my forest, where the foot of man has, at least, seldom trod : and here I find my contemplations particularly agreeable and soothing." November, 1807 ; Wednesday.—" I got a tumble to-day ; but as both aunt and wife say I deserved it, I will say no more about it, only that to the confusion in my head I attribute having this evening lost one point at backgammon and three at whist. Thursday.—I have not stirred out of the house, owing to a slight indisposition which succeeded my fall, but which, I thank God, has now entirely disappeared. Friday.—Yesterday I examined my desk, and set my papers in order ; read some, and played a little : in the evening we pursued our studies as usual ; which, although serious, we find very delightful. We so far varied them as to read the life of our author William Jones, instead of his works : though delightful throughout, his dying moments gave us the greatest comfort. A little while before his dissolution, as his curate was standing by his bedside, he desired him to read the seventy-first psalm, which he had no sooner done, than, taking him by the hand, he said, ' if this be dying, I had no idea what dying was before ; ' adding in a stronger voice, ' thank God, thank God, it is no worse ! ' He had long very much dreaded the pains of death :—you may be sure we read the psalm."

In the year 1813 Dr. Bard was appointed president of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in which honorable station he continued during life ; and rendered his official duties valuable to the institution by the warm interest he took in its success, the judicious plans he framed for its improvement, and the impressive discourses with which he accompanied the delivery of its degrees. In these he drew, with his accustomed energy, a vivid picture of the accomplished physician ; in his education, in his subsequent improvement, in his professional conduct, and in his private deportment. Over all these sketches he threw a



moral and religious coloring, which gave them richness and force ; showing the happy influence which pure morals and firm religious principles must ever exercise over professional success ; and concluding one of his last, as already noticed, with the character of Boerhaave, as approaching to this rare union of the physician, the scholar, the gentleman and the christian.\*

In the flowers and fruits of the garden Dr. B. became a learned and skilful horticulturist ; conversed, read and wrote upon the subject ; laid exactions on all his friends who could aid him in obtaining what was rare, beautiful or excellent in its kind ; drew from England its smaller fruits, the larger ones from France, melons from Italy, and vines from Madeira, managing them all with a varied yet experimental skill, which baffled the comprehension of minds of slower perception. These plans, though novel, were, in general, judicious ; being the result of much reading and

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\* At the opening of the school in November he delivered one of the most dignified and impressive discourses on the importance of medical education which can be found on record. It affords honorable attestations of talent and powers of eloquence, and is fraught with the purest sentiments of moral and professional rectitude. "In the study of diseases," he says, "and in the practice of medicine, no histories however accurate, no reasoning however just, can convey the knowledge necessary for their treatment and cure. The student must see, and hear, and feel for himself; the hue of the complexion, the feel of the skin, the lustre or the languor of the eye, the throbbing of the pulse, and the palpitations of the heart ; the quickness and the ease of respiration, the tone and tremor of the voice, the confidence of hope or the despondence of fear expressed in the countenance, baffle all description : yet all and each of these convey important and necessary information. Where can these be learnt but at the bedside of the sick, and where shall a number of young men, who cannot be admitted into the privacies of families, or to the chambers of women, acquire this necessary and important information, but in *public hospitals*, which are not only intended to relieve the complicated misery of poverty and sickness, but as schools, should always be made conducive to the public good, and as such, even more than as charitable institutions, merit and receive the patronage of government." "Indolence is the greatest enemy to learning ; but indolence is [a vice bred and nourished in solitude, and can hardly exist at a public school, except in minds of so heavy a mould as to be incapable of culture. On the other hand, to labor without plan or design, may indeed accumulate a confused mass of materials ; but use, beauty, order and proportion, are the result of skill, and to erect such materials as we have collected, into a convenient and elegant edifice, requires the hand of a master." "Nor are the happy consequences of a good education in medicine confined to the chambers of the sick. A physician must necessarily, in some measure, become the companion, and frequently the intimate friend of his patient. His knowledge, therefore, and his example become extensively useful or prejudicial. Is he wise, and good, and learned ? his learning will instruct, his humanity will bless, and his good example will amend many among those with whom he daily converses. Is he ignorant, and loose, and debauched ? what mischief may he not do to the younger members of those families who put their confidence in him, and who generally look up to him as a character of superior talents, learning and worth. And again, the medical character is not only very influential, it is the most numerous among the learned professions ; the example, therefore, of a physician's knowledge and virtues, or the contamination of his ignorance and his vices, will assume a wider and more extended range."—*Amer. Med. and Philo. Register.*

long experience, and, above all, of an imagination trained to what Bacon terms "tentative experiments."

In the year 1811, circumstances favoring its establishment, the Church of St. James, at Hyde Park, was erected, of which Dr. B. was in effect the founder. Attached, not only by habit, but by rational conviction, to the Episcopal branch of the Protestant Church, he had long been anxious for its establishment in his neighborhood. So highly did he value the public exercises of devotion, as means both of instruction and conviction, that after the erection of the church, in order to supply the occasional absence of its rector, he submitted to the necessity, at the age of seventy years, of receiving from episcopal authority the license required to entitle him to act as lay reader in the church. The following is an extract from the form of daily devotion made use of by himself and wife :—

"O God ! enlighten our understanding that we may comprehend thy will, strengthen our resolution to obey thy commands, endow us with resignation under thy dispensations, and fill our hearts with love and gratitude for all thy benefits. Give unto us, O Lord, whose lives thou hast continued to so late a day, sincere and true repentance, and grant that, as age advances upon us, our minds may be more and more enlightened by the knowledge of thy will, more resigned to thy dispensations, and more invigorated with the resolution to obey thy commands. Calm all our thoughts and fears ; give peace and quiet to our latter days ; and so support us by thy grace through the weakness and infirmities of age, that we may die in humble hope and confidence of thy merciful pardon and acceptance through the merits of our Redeemer."

In one devotional habit he resembled Boerhaave ; and, perhaps, was guided by his example. He regularly devoted a part of his early morning to religious reading and reflection ; by which, as he himself expressed it, he endeavored to "set his mind to a right edge for the business of the day."

In the church which he erected, Dr. B. continued to find, unto the very close of life, a more than ordinary comfort and satisfaction. "No equal expenditure of money," he was used to say, "had ever returned to him so large an interest ;" and by those who ever saw him engaged in its services, its truth will not be doubted. His venerable looks, his devout but animated manners, his loud

response, and eye glistening with gratitude and thankfulness, surrounded by children and grandchildren, form a picture on which memory loves to dwell. From these meetings, sanctified alike by devotion and family affection, he was rarely absent. Sickness could hardly detain him; and absence from home he always felt as a misfortune.

In passing through Princeton at the period of its public commencement, Dr. B. received a mark of the high respect in which his character was held by being waited upon by a deputation from the trustees of that institution, and by the honorary degree of LL.D. conferred upon him.

In Dr. B. we recognise a remarkable instance illustrative of the position, that the powers of usefulness are not necessarily lost with age; that feebleness of mind is rather the rust of indolence than the decay of nature; and that old age may continue to the very latest period, honored and beloved, teaching the young by its experience, instructing them with its learning, and turning into love and veneration those natural feelings of respect with which it is regarded. He was alike the counsellor and the companion, the instructor and the friend of all the young persons who were so fortunate as to have a claim upon his attentions. His plans for their improvement were novel and varied, his pursuit of them eager, his commendation warm and animated, and his reproof, though tender, "vehement in love." The correspondence which, under these circumstances, he maintained with his grandson while under the tuition of his medical instructor, abounds in lessons of practical wisdom, and contains the result of his medical experience upon most of the subjects which during its continuance attracted public or professional attention.

The following letter of religious reflections was found in his desk after his decease.

*April 2d, 1813.*

"Yesterday I entered into my seventy-first year; and when I review my past life, I find through the whole course of it, reason only for gratitude for an almost uninterrupted succession of blessings. For the liberality, almost beyond his means, with which my kind and generous father conducted my education; for his watchful care through the dangerous period of my youth; for the excellent example of his just, honorable, useful and benevolent life; for his early introduction into the business of my

profession ; and for the invariable and affectionate friendship with which he treated me unto the day of his death.

“ For the many kind friends who took me by the hand at my setting out in life, and for that success in my profession, by which I have all along been comfortably supported, and enabled to lay by sufficient for an easy and independent old age.

“ For the many virtues, and most useful talents of my dear and excellent wife ; for the good order, neatness and liberal economy, with which she has always conducted my family ; for the steady, judicious and affectionate care, with which she has assisted me in the education of our children, and to which, I firmly believe, we are in a great measure indebted for the happiness we now enjoy in their society ; for her courage and support under domestic afflictions, professional vexations, pecuniary losses, and other difficulties I have met with ; for the constant love and fidelity with which she has blest me in health ; and for the patience with which she has endured my fretfulness, and the tenderness with which she has almost annihilated the pains of sickness.

“ For the virtues and affectionate gratitude, the health and prosperity of the children with which God has blessed my old age ; for the kind attention of the excellent wife He has given my son, by whom we are enabled to enjoy our present easy and tranquil life ; for the virtuous character, and kind and affectionate temper of the husbands He has given to our daughters, by which we enjoy the unspeakable happiness of seeing them happy, and being assured that whenever it shall please God to take us from them, we shall leave them under affectionate and tender protectors.

“ For the pleasing prattle and promising virtues of all our grandchildren ; for the society and affectionate friendship of my sisters and brother-in-law, and for the hopes and promise of their children ; and lastly, for having, by His most gracious and singular providence, now in the evening of my days, brightened my setting sun by collecting all these blessings around me.

“ Give me grace, O Heavenly Father, constantly to acknowledge in all these blessings thy most merciful goodness ; to feel my own demerits ; to repent sincerely of the ingratitude of my past life ; and to dedicate the future to thy service, in promoting to the utmost of my power the

temporal and eternal happiness of my family, friends, neighbors, and all others within the reach of my ability and influence. Continue thy most gracious protection and blessing to me and my dear wife, during the residue of our lives; sustain us in death, and finally pardon and accept us, for the sake and merits of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior."\*

The last winter of Dr. Bard's life was passed by him in more than usual enjoyment. Preceded by a long and satisfactory visit to his daughter in town, it rolled rapidly by in his usual interchange of study and amusement. Engaged in preparing an enlarged edition of his chief medical work, he found no time to hang heavy on his hands; and it was difficult to say from which of his varied employments, whether of labor, or amusement, he derived the greatest pleasure. In a letter to his son dated Christmas, 1820, he says "I walk, ride, and amuse myself out of doors with my green-house, and in doors with my little transparent orrery; to which I am contemplating some additions and familiar illustrations. My green-house and flower stands afford me considerable amusement. The plants flourish exceedingly; I spent two hours among them yesterday, and shall do so occasionally through the winter. Every plant, from the royal orange and myrtle to the humble crocus, in fragrance, grace and beauty, perform their part to admiration; and although they excite no passion of fear or mirth, of love or alarm, yet they do better,—they calm all my passions, sooth disappointment, and even mitigate the feelings of sorrow." Again, "I have already mentioned my good health; and, thank God, have passed the winter free from pain; and now be-

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\* In the family of Dr. Bard was the venerable Mrs. Barton, a lady whose warm attachment to Dr. and Mrs. Bard through a long life, demands some passing record,—a tribute now doubly due, since the shock of their united death seemed to break the last feeble thread which detained her in this state of mortality; and within a few days she followed them at the advanced age of ninety years, neither overcome by disease, nor broken down by infirmity. Mrs. Barton was aunt both to Dr. and Mrs. Bard, and widow to the friend and brother-in-law of our eminent countryman, David Rittenhouse. So highly was she esteemed and so warmly beloved, that Mrs. Bard made her aunt's residence with her a previous requisite to consenting to remove to the country. From the period of that event she continued to reside with them; not only aiding by her counsel and skill, but enlivening by her good sense and cheerfulness, the varied employments of a country life. Independent in her occupations, actively and benevolently employed, participating in all family festivities, and with a tremulous, though sweet, voice, (which in youth had gained her the title of the "American nightingale,") leading at the supper table a united chorus, in which the voices of four successive generations emulously contended.

gin to enjoy the spring by riding on horseback and amusing myself in my garden ; but I do both with caution. When it is fair over head, but damp under foot, I ride my pony into the garden to give my directions, and to see my plants bursting into life, in which I take very great delight.

“ I have several beautiful and rare plants coming forward ; and I watch their progress with an interest which, by many people, would be thought trifling in a man of four score : but I appease my conscience by the innocence of the pursuit, and my inability for such as are more active.”

About this period the tranquillity of this good man was tried with affliction by the death of a young, but favorite grandson, on which occasion he observed, “ It is a hard lesson, and one, I cannot believe, required of us, to receive pain and sorrow at our Father’s hand with the same feelings we do joy and blessing,—submit without murmuring we can, and even acknowledge the goodness and mercy of the hand which chastises us : yet we cannot but feel the stripes ; and, indeed, if we did not, they would be no chastisement. Still I yield him up with the composure of christian resignation to the will of our merciful Father, who not only knows, but determines what is best for those who put their trust in him.” In another letter he uses the following language—“ Misfortune properly improved, becomes the source of our greatest blessings. If it serve to moderate our desires, at the same time that it rouses us to greater exertion ; if it control our unruly passions, and strengthen our virtuous inclinations ; above all, if it excite in our hearts true religion, and confirm our humble dependence upon the mercy and goodness of God ; then we may say, with truth, ‘ it is good for us that we have been afflicted.’ Whenever I pursue this train of thought, I gain strength, and become ashamed and repentant that I suffer the comparatively slight reverses which we have met with, for a moment to damp me. I buckle on my armor, and prepare for the conflict with renewed vigor and fresh hopes. Something like despondence, I confess, will now and then assail me ; and, in spite of my better convictions, the prospect of difficulties, now when my strength begins to fail me, brings a load upon my spirits which I find it difficult to shake off ; until again an appeal to that Good Being, who has so long conducted me forward in a pros-

perous and happy career, calms my troubled mind, and again I feel able to submit to whatever His wisdom may direct."

Having attended this venerable physician and christian through his long career of honorable life, we come to notice its conclusion in the ripeness of its age and in the fulness of its powers.

In the month of May, 1821, while preparing for their annual spring visit to the city, Mrs. Bard was attacked with a pleuritic affection ; which after a few days gave evidence of a fatal termination. Dr. Bard, though laboring under a similar attack, would not be separated from her ; but continued to be, as formerly, her companion, nurse and physician. Such a long and affectionate union as their's had been, had early excited the wish, the prayer, and the expectation, that in death they were not to be divided. What was thus both wished for and expected, had become, it seems, the subject of their sleeping thoughts ; and a remarkable dream of Mrs. Bard's to this effect, was now remembered and repeated by her husband with feelings, not of superstitious, but pleasing anticipation.

The last effort of his pen was to give comfort to those who were absent. On Sunday, 20th instant, three days before his own death, he wrote with a trembling hand a consolatory letter to his friends in New-York, who were anxiously waiting his arrival. This letter, which conveyed to his daughter the first intimation of danger, brought her to her paternal home a few hours too late to receive a mother's blessing ; but in time to spend a few short ones of affectionate intercourse with her dying father. It was passed in calmness by both : indeed, there was no room for sorrow in such a tranquil, peaceful departure. His calm, but affectionate inquiries about absent friends, his rational directions as to future arrangements, and his freedom from all perturbation of spirit, were so foreign from the common conception of departing humanity, that the feelings could not realize it,—there were in it no images of grief from which imagination might draw her pattern.

Under these circumstances, not of stoical, but christian composure, he sunk to rest at 5 o'clock in the morning of the 24th May, in the eightieth year of his age, twenty-four hours after the death of his wife !—a common grave received their remains. Their affectionate relative, Mrs.



Barton, sunk under the bereavement, and within a few days joined them in the land of rest.

As a summary of Dr. Bard's character, says his able biographer, I close with the concluding sentence of a communication made to me by one who best knew his worth, and most deeply felt his loss. "Of my father's general character," says he, "of his candor, of the purity of his intentions, of his integrity, of the tenderness of his feelings, of his polite and affectionate manners, of his ardor in every honorable and virtuous pursuit, of his calm, but profound religious feelings, of his domestic virtues, of his cheerful temper, of his love to mankind, I dare not speak,—the recollection of them is deeply engraven on my heart, and but too fresh in my memory." Numerous testimonials of individual respect and condolence, exhibiting the estimation in which Dr. Bard was held, were called forth by the lamented event of his death, among which was a very affectionate letter of condolence from his Excellency Hyde De Neuville, minister of France at Washington.

The following minute is taken from a meeting of the governors of the New-York Hospital.

*June 5, 1821.*

"The governors receive with unfeigned regret the account of the decease of their late fellow member of this corporation, Dr. Samuel Bard.

"It is due to the memory of that eminent physician and philanthropist, to state, that by means of his benevolent exertions, in the year 1769, setting forth in a public discourse the benefits to be derived from the establishment of an hospital in the city, the present institution was originally founded. That for a number of years, amidst the arduous avocations of an extensive private practice, he performed with unceasing fidelity and punctuality, the duties of a physician to this establishment, and was the means, under Providence, of extending its usefulness, and of elevating its character, not only as an asylum for the sick poor, but as an important means of promoting medical education in the city. The signal services rendered by Dr. Bard to this community in general, and to this institution in particular; the virtuous and religious character for which he was uniformly distinguished; the zealous devotion to the interests of humanity which he ever manifested as a citizen, as well as in discharge of the duties of his profession; render it in a peculiar manner becoming this



board to express their high sense of his great worth, his professional merit and services, and the benefits he has conferred upon his native city and country."

## CONCLUSION.

Although in the narrative now concluded, affection may appear in some instances to have dictated the language, the author is not aware that in any it has exaggerated the sentiment. He believes it will meet the recollection of those who best knew the subject of it. Indeed it was not easy to know Dr. B. intimately, without loving and reverencing him ; so that to exclude affection from giving the picture, is to exclude that knowledge which is necessary to secure resemblance. Of his public conduct and professional character, the author believes he has spoken with due deference to the opinion of those who may be better judges. Of that which has been the great aim of the memoir, the display of private character, he has spoken confidently, because he knew intimately ; and in the varied relations of social and domestic life, having proposed him as a model to himself, he is not afraid to hold him up to others as an example worthy of imitation.

The foregoing is an abridged narrative from the life of Dr. Samuel Bard by the Rev. John McVickar, A. M. Professor of Moral Philosophy and Rhetoric, Columbia College, New-York. The reader will require no apology for its length, when it is considered, as it unquestionably will be, that the memoir affords one of the best of models for imitation for the physician, the christian and the philanthropist.

BARKER, JOSHUA, M.M.S.S. was the son of Francis Barker, a respectable shipwright in Hingham, Massachusetts. He was born 24th of March, 1753, and was graduated at Harvard University in 1772. Having chosen for his profession the practice of medicine, he acquired his education under the instruction of Samuel Danforth, M.D. of Boston, and established himself as a physician in his native town, where his practice, though not very extensive, was successful and satisfactory. Had he been placed in a situation in which his whole powers could have been developed, he would have taken elevated ground, and his reputation been more extensively diffused ; but in the situation he selected, he had to contend with all the prejudices incident to a location in the place of his birth, with the

competition of old and experienced physicians who had preoccupied the business and possessed the public confidence, and in a part of the country stationary, or nearly so, in its population. With all these disadvantages his reputation stood high, and he acquired and preserved the friendship and confidence of his fellow citizens.

He had a good taste and respectable acquirements in general literature, and was an excellent scholar. As a physician his attention to the sick was always prompt, kind and impartial, administering with the same readiness to the rich and poor. In the domestic and social relations and as a member of civil society, few men were more justly esteemed and respected than Dr. Barker. An easy politeness, refined taste, cheerful hospitality and intelligent conversation, made his house a pleasant resort to his friends and acquaintances ; and by attentive notice of strangers who visited Hingham, he was an honor to the place in which he lived. In friendship he was warm and affectionate, yet steady and faithful. In his dealings he was regular, methodical, punctual and conscientiously upright. As a citizen, a firm friend to liberty, order and peace, he was a friend to all the institutions of his country which have the promotion of these for their object, whether civil, religious or literary, and was always ready by his example, influence, exertions and contributions, to promote them.

He was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and contributed to its usefulness, until he was visited with an attack on the nervous system, which after a gradual and distressing decay of near eleven months terminated in dissolution in April, 1800.

BARON, ALEXANDER, M. D. was born of respectable parents in the year 1745 in the county of Kincardine, in Scotland, where he received the first rudiments of his education. When sufficiently prepared, he was sent to Aberdeen and entered upon his course of academical study in the college of that place. Being gifted with genius and of quick apprehension, he made rapid progress in the classics and philosophy, so that he was qualified much earlier than is usual for the study of one of the learned professions, for which he was designed. The bent of his genius inclining him to medicine, he made choice of it as his profession, and was accordingly placed as a private pupil under the care of Drs. Livingston and Robertson,

two eminent physicians in Aberdeen, and when sufficiently instructed, he entered the medical school at Edinburgh and commenced a medical course under the patronage of the late celebrated Dr. John Gregory, Professor in that university.

Having attended three courses of lectures with great diligence, he was graduated the 12th September, 1760, on which occasion he published and publicly defended a "*Thesis de Tusse Convulsiva.*" During his residence at Edinburgh, his correct moral deportment, his extensive erudition, his habits of study and observation deservedly secured to him the friendship and esteem of all his acquaintances ; and among the number of his intimates were several medical students and others, distinguished by their virtues and scientific acquirements. Being now qualified for the exercise of the duties of his important and arduous profession, he embarked for Charleston, South Carolina, where he arrived and commenced his medical career in the year 1769.

Endowed by nature with almost every attribute of genius, he cultivated her choicest gifts with unabating ardor ; and possessing a sound and discriminating judgment, gentleness of manner and an affectionate disposition, few men were better qualified for the discharge of all the important duties of the profession ; and of course his prospect of an early establishment in practice, was highly flattering to his friends and himself. Exclusive of all this, his studies had been so various, that he had something to say upon almost every topic of discourse, so that he rendered himself the delight and ornament of every circle ; and surely a physician with such professional attainments, could not fail to make a favorable impression upon those of his own profession, as well as others ; and accordingly, Dr. Milligan, at that time conspicuous as a practising physician in Charleston, was induced to offer him a share of his practice, which was accepted, and the connexion continued a considerable time. Dr. Baron afterwards connected himself in professional copartnership with Drs. Oliphant, and Samuel and Robert Wilson.

With a rich fund of miscellaneous knowledge derived from reading and an extensive intercourse with the world, he rendered himself one of the most agreeable and instructive companions. In the familiar intercourse of life, in the capacity of physician or friend, his manners, cheerful

and graceful, with the affability and dignity of true politeness ; his sympathy with the distressed, and his mind well stored with anecdote, he seldom visited the hale or the sick, upon whom he did not make a favorable impression. Of christian charity, the vital principle of religion, he was endowed with an uncommon share, and so unbounded was his generosity, that his heart and purse were always open to his friends ; considering every one as his friend, whose situation was such as to require his assistance. Dr. Baron was easy of access and agreeable, in consequence of which he became so great a favorite among the younger members of the profession, whom he invariably patronised, that they were extremely fond of consulting with him in all cases of difficulty ; for, while they derived benefit from his counsels, they never had reason to apprehend that they should be borne down by an ostentatious display of his superior talents, which too frequently occurs on such occasions. He was one of the founders of the Medical Society of South Carolina and was elected its vice president in 1790.

Like the great Sydenham, Dr. B. was an accurate observer of nature. Patient and minute in the investigation of diseases, and deliberate and cautious in forming his judgment, the sick had a well founded prospect of deriving benefit from the advice and prescriptions of such a physician. As might be supposed, his practice was influenced by his great master, the celebrated Cullen ; but it appeared that the theories of all the various medical schools, as well ancient as modern, with which he was acquainted, had lost much of their weight upon his mature understanding. Dr. Baron in the year 1770, soon after his arrival at Charleston, joined the St. Andrew's Society, the oldest charitable association in the state ; and was elected its annual president for twenty-eight successive years. From his first settlement he continued the exercise of his profession with great reputation, to a short period before his death. His constitution had for some time felt the effects of a long and laborious practice, and the progress of old age ; but his mind had lost none of its vigor. In almost every case of difficulty or danger, he continued to be consulted, and his opinions were always received with the greatest respect. For a few weeks before his death, he became unable, from his increasing infirmities, to attend to the arduous duties of his profession ; and he died on the 9th day of January, 1819, universally regretted.—[*Abridged from a Sketch by Samuel Wilson, M. D.*]

**BARTLETT, JOSIAH, M.D.** Governor of New-Hampshire, was born in Amesbury, Massachusetts, in November, 1729. He was early put to learn the rudiments of the Latin and Greek languages, which he accomplished with considerable rapidity, having a quick perception and tenacious memory. At the age of sixteen he was placed with a Dr. Ordway to study physic, but he soon exhausted the Doctor's scanty library and resorted to others for a supply.

In 1750, having completed his medical education at the age of twenty-one, he commenced the practice of his profession at Kingston in New-Hampshire. Two years after he was seized with a fever which in all probability would have proved fatal to him, had not his own reason counteracted the hackneyed modes of his attending physician. At the approach of a crisis his strength was so much exhausted by a warm and stimulating regimen and seclusion from the air, that his physician pronounced his disorder fatal; but the patient prevailed upon two young men that night to procure for him a quart of cider, which he took by half a teacupful at a time, by which he was so invigorated that in the morning a copious perspiration ensued, and his fever was effectually checked. Ever after this event Dr. Bartlett was a strict observer of nature in all diseases, and rejecting all arbitrary medical rules, he founded his practice upon the details of nature and experience. He soon became popular as a physician, and secured a large share of practice both lucrative and honorable to himself, and highly useful to the people.

In the year 1733, and again in 1735, a "distemper" originated in Kingston, which eluded all the powers of the physicians of that period. It was called the "throat distemper" (angina maligna.) This disease was considered as entirely new in the country, and was not understood, although in some ancient authors a similar disease has been noticed. The physicians considered it to be of an inflammatory nature, and adopted their mode of treatment upon that principle. The disease spread rapidly, and among children it proved almost universally mortal, like the plague in warm climates; many families lost nearly all their children under ten years of age, death often taking place in twelve hours from the attack, and some dying while sitting with their playthings in their hands. The depleting and antiphlogistic course of practice was pursued

almost invariably with death, and the physicians were entirely at a loss for a successful method of cure. In 1754 the angina maligna again made its appearance, but with less malignity ; Dr. Bartlett being now in practice in Kingston, finding the antiphlogistic course constantly unsuccessful, devoted much attention to the investigation of the disease and decided in his own mind that it was of a highly putrid character, and that antiseptic remedies were clearly indicated. In the case of one of his own children, therefore, he employed the Peruvian bark and other antiseptics with a happy result, and he afterward adopted the same mode of practice with such general success as to establish his fame.

From his integrity and decision of character Dr. B. was soon designated as a magistrate and sustained various offices from the lowest to the highest. He was also appointed by Governor John Wentworth to the command of a regiment of militia, where he discharged his duties with much promptness and fidelity. In the year 1765 Col. Bartlett began his political career as representative for the town of Kingston in the legislature of the Province. He seems to have been endowed with the innate principles of civil and religious liberty, and although young and inexperienced in politics he was soon found with a small minority in opposition to royal policy ; voting against what they supposed to be unjust violations of a right, and arbitrary usurpations. Governor John Wentworth, knowing Dr. B. to be an influential member of the assembly, appointed him a justice of the peace, but his independent spirit was not to be allured from his sense of duty and his principles. In 1774 he was a conspicuous and zealous advocate for the cause of the whigs, and was among the principal leaders in the house of assembly against the measures pursued by the governor and his friends. He was elected a delegate to the general congress who were to meet at Philadelphia, but, having recently lost his house by fire, he declined the office. In February, 1775, Dr. B. was by Governor Wentworth deprived of his commission of the peace and also of his command in the militia. In September, 1775, he was appointed to command a regiment by the provincial congress, and being again chosen a delegate to the Continental congress, he attended in that honorable assembly, and when the vote for American independence was taken Col. Bartlett's name was first called, as repre-

sending the most easterly province, and he boldly answered in the affirmative. He was the first, therefore, who voted for, and the first after the President who signed that memorable instrument. Col. Bartlett's task was extremely arduous and fatiguing, congress being occupied from nine o'clock, A. M. to four, P. M. before dining ; after which he was on committee till nine or ten o'clock in the evening. The increasing prospect of untried events in which their lives, their families and their estates were put to the hazard ; the death of their late valuable president ; the death of General Montgomery, and other disastrous events ; the ravages of the infuriated enemy ; their unjustifiable destruction of an innocent people ; together with the thoughts of his distant family who were in an embarrassed situation in consequence of his recent loss by fire ; all conspired to depress his spirits. He, however, sustained these cares with a consciousness of the justice of his cause and a reliance on the goodness of the Supreme Disposer of all events, which confirmed his perseverance in duty.

In 1779 Col. Bartlett was appointed chief justice of the superior court, which office he held until he was appointed chief justice in 1788. Col. B. was an active member of the convention for adopting the confederation in 1788, and was chosen a senator in congress in 1789, but this office he declined through the infirmities of age. We next find this estimable man occupying the station of President of the state of New-Hampshire in 1790, and in 1793 he was elected the first governor of the state under the new form of government. In this office, as in all others, his duties were promptly and faithfully discharged. He was indeed a ruler in whom the wise placed confidence, and of whom even the captious could find nothing to complain. In 1794 Governor B. retired from the chair of chief magistrate of the state and from all public employment.

On the 19th of May, 1795, this distinguished patriot paid the debt of nature, being in the 65th year of his age. The following just description of his character is extracted from the sermon preached at his interment by the Rev. Mr. Thayer. " His mind was quick and penetrating, his memory tenacious, his judgment sound and prospective ; his natural temper was open, humane and compassionate. In all his dealings he was scrupulously just, and faithful in the performance of all his engagements. These shining talents accompanied with distinguished probity, early in

life recommended him to the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens. But few persons by their own merit, without the influence of family or party connexions, have risen from one degree of honor to another as he did ; and fewer still have been the instances in which a succession of honorable and important offices even to the highest, have been held by any man with less envy, or executed with more general approbation."—*New-Hampshire Hist. and Biograph. Collections.*

BARTLETT, JOSIAH, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born in Charlestown, Mass. in the year 1759. At an early period he became a pupil of Dr. Isaac Foster, a very respectable physician of the same town, who entered the medical department of the American army on its first formation at Cambridge, on the 20th of April, 1775, the day following the battle of Lexington.

Young Bartlett continued his pupilage under Dr. Foster, who was appointed chief surgeon in the general hospital at Cambridge, and who subsequently procured the office of surgeon's mate for his pupil, then at the age of sixteen years, in which station he continued to serve until the year 1780, when he resigned both his pupilage and his commission, and was engaged for two voyages as surgeon to ships of war. During his public service Dr. Bartlett manifested a degree of activity, attention and faithfulness, which secured to him a high reputation and the approbation of his superiors in office. About the close of the war he settled in his native town, and soon became distinguished as a practitioner in medicine.

Dr. Bartlett attended a single course of lectures on anatomy delivered by Dr. John Warren in 1780 ; and, notwithstanding his extensive practice, he attended a complete course of medical lectures at Cambridge in 1790, and in 1791 became Bachelor of Medicine, and in 1801 the degree of M. D. was conferred upon him. In 1789 he was admitted to be a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, soon after became recording secretary of that highly respectable body, and continued in office in various situations until his death ; and perhaps no man contributed more time and active exertion to improve the state of the society, and through it the interests of medical literature. He delivered two public discourses of a medical nature, one before the Middlesex Medical Association, the other before the Massachusetts Medical Society, the latter of



which is well known as affording a very interesting historical sketch of medical characters in this part of the country, from its settlement. He also published various papers on medical subjects in the communications of the Medical Society and in the New-England Medical Journal.

Although engaged in a most extensive practice, Dr. Bartlett found time to employ a part of his activity in civil offices, and was at various times elected representative, senator, and counsellor, in the state government. Soon after his settlement at Charlestown, he became a member of the honorable fraternity of masons, among whom he was very distinguished, and occupied all the posts of honor to that of grand master, and especially was conspicuous for the number of occasional and appropriate addresses which he delivered in that society.

Dr. Bartlett's character was remarkable for industry, activity and intelligence. He never declined any duty which was assigned him, and always executed it speedily and thoroughly; and was of course constantly resorted to for difficult services. Perhaps no individual in this vicinity delivered so great a number of public orations, medical, political and literary. He possessed a physical constitution which promised a long as well as active life; but his spirits being broken by unfortunate occurrences, his health in consequence became impaired. Two years before his death his activity was paralyzed, his desire of life was extinguished, and at length on the third day of March, 1820, he was struck with an apoplexy, which in two days after terminated his existence.

BARTON, BENJAMIN SMITH, M. D. Professor in the University of Pennsylvania, was born at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, February 10th, 1766. His mother was the sister of the celebrated philosopher, Rittenhouse. The death of his parents occasioned his removal in 1782 to the family of a brother in Philadelphia, where he spent several years in the study of literature, the sciences and medicine. In 1786 he went to Great Britain, and prosecuted his medical studies at Edinburgh and London. He afterward visited Gottingen, and there obtained the degree of Doctor in Medicine. On returning to Philadelphia in 1789, he established himself as a physician in that city, and his superior talents and education soon procured him competent employment. He was that year appointed Professor of Natural History and Botany in the College of Philadel-

phia, and continued in the office on the incorporation of the college with the university in 1791. He was appointed Professor of *Materia Medica* on the resignation of Dr. Griffiths, and on the death of Dr. Rush succeeded him in the department of the Theory and Practice of Medicine. He died December 19th, 1815.

Dr. Barton was highly distinguished by his talents and professional attainments, and contributed much by his lectures and writings to the progress of natural science in the United States. He published "*Elements of Zoology and Botany*," in which he made respectable additions to the zoological science of our country, and displayed a degree of genius, diligence, learning and zeal in this pursuit, which do honor to our republic, and which bid fair to place him among the most accomplished and useful naturalists of his time. In 1803 Dr. B. published "*Elements of Botany, or Outlines of the Natural History of Vegetables, &c.*" He has the honor of being the first American who gave to his country an elementary work on Botany, and if we judge, says Dr. Miller in his *Retrospect of the 18th Century*, of the subsequent harvest from the first fruits, it will be rich indeed. This work is illustrated by thirty plates, and discovers an extent of learning, an acuteness and vigor of mind, and an elegance of taste, highly honorable to the author. Of the thirty plates which accompany this work, twenty-eight have claims to more or less originality, and many of them are completely original. They are well executed ; and most of the subjects selected for delineation, are remarkable for their rarity, their beauty, or some other peculiarity of character. Every part of this work discovers that the author has not been contented with compiling the facts and opinions of his predecessors, but that he has accurately observed and thought for himself. He will, therefore, no doubt, be pronounced by the best judges to have presented his countrymen with the most comprehensive and instructive work of this kind in the English language.

Dr. B. published "*Collections for an Essay towards a Materia Medica of the United States*," which is the only work professedly on the subject of which it treats that had at that time issued from the American press. In 1810 the author published a third edition of this very valuable production. It is an original work of great merit, and was peculiarly acceptable to the public, as it brought into no-

tice numerous medicinal remedies, the produce of our own soil, which had been entirely neglected, but which have since augmented and enriched the American materia medica. In 1805 Dr. B. commenced the publication of the "Medical and Physical Journal," to which he contributed many valuable articles.

As a naturalist, the merits of Dr. B. are of no common kind; and he has deservedly received a large share of praise in his own and in foreign countries for his many and successful exertions in enlarging the sphere of natural knowledge. He published "Fragments of the Natural History of Pennsylvania," "Essay on the Fascinating Power ascribed to Serpents, &c." and several memoirs on particular specimens in zoology in the American Philosophical Transactions. In his new "Views of the Origin of the Tribes and Nations of America," will be found vocabularies of a number of Indian languages that were never before committed to the press; comparing these with languages more generally known, both on the eastern and western continents; and thence deducing new evidence in support of the opinion that the nations of America and those of Asia have a common origin, and that all mankind are derived from a single pair. But the public have been called to lament his premature death, which took place in 1815. "His various works evince a closeness of observation, an accuracy of inquiry, an extent of learning, and a vigor and comprehensiveness of mind, which are equally honorable to their possessor and to his country."

In conclusion, it is but justice to observe that American science and literature are immensely indebted to the indefatigable labors of him whose memoirs we have now recorded.—*Miller's Retrospect and sundry Documents.*

BARTON, EDWARD, M. D. was a native of England. He came to the United States at an early period of life, under the immediate care and superintendence of the Abbé Tisserant, a French gentleman of uncommon attainments, exemplary piety, and of peculiar sweetness of manners and disposition. To the parental care of this accomplished scholar Barton was indebted for an excellent foundation in classical learning, which was built upon with signal success. After the usual course of academic instruction, he passed some time, with great advantage to himself and with usefulness to others, at the Roman Catholic College at Baltimore, where his classical education may be consid-

ered as having been completed. His views relative to the business of life, were directed to the profession of medicine. He spent some months at Hanover, N. H. and attended a course of lectures delivered by Dr. Smith. He came to Philadelphia and, as an immediate pupil of Dr. Physick, passed through the course of medical studies required by the university, and received his degree with peculiar favor and approbation from his instructors.

Soon after he was graduated Dr. Barton went to Europe, and devoted himself assiduously to the attainment of knowledge in his profession, by means of all the advantages which he could command in Great Britain and France. He returned to the United States in a few years, and settled in Philadelphia for the purpose of practising physic and surgery. With the aid afforded by the kind and friendly patronage of a gentleman whose name is another name for benevolence, he was favorably introduced into this community; and by means of the most diligent study and attention he fulfilled every expectation concerning him. His progress in the practice of his profession, though gradual, was such as convinced those who regarded him with kindness, that he was advancing with a certain march to distinction and usefulness. He had passed through the tedious and exhausting noviciate, which must be passed by every man of merit in his profession, and he was known with high esteem by the most eminent of his medical brethren, and with favor by a respectable portion of this community. At this moment, when, it may with truth be said, the hopes of many were fixed upon him as calculated for signal usefulness, when he had already acquired something of the strength and confidence of success, and when his ambition was most ardent, and his prospects most flattering, it pleased God to visit him with a pulmonary affection, from which he and his friends apprehended his speedy dissolution. Under the advice of his friend and preceptor, Dr. Physick, he sailed from Philadelphia on the fourth day of August, 1821, for Lisbon, and from that port he went to Genoa, at which place his eyes were closed in death by the hands of strangers.

It is believed by the friend who writes these lines, that few young men have been removed by death, who were more entitled to be lamented, and whose loss could be regarded as more truly severe upon the community, than the subject of this notice. We do not undertake to speak from

our own knowledge of his professional attainments ; but we are authorized from the known sentiments of those most competent to judge, to speak of them as uncommon for his period of life. We can speak, and with the deepest sincerity, of the manners and deportment of our friend in the chamber of disease ; they were all that affection and feeling could require and prudence dictate. He was vigilant, tender, untiring and faithful to the last. His patients will readily assent to the truth of our assertion, that he never spared himself, nor regarded himself as an object of thought, when his presence, his care, his watchings, could tend even to allay the anxiety of the sick. He visited, with equal fidelity to the patient, the abode of poverty and the mansion of the rich ; and it may be affirmed with justice that he took peculiar pleasure in his ministrations to the lowly and the humble. His mind was of too lofty a character to suffer him to avail himself of adventitious circumstances to obtain the favor of the community. He scorned even the appearance of seeking to win that favor by any other means than his merit ; and though sometimes inclined to despondency, he confided for ultimate success in that just discrimination of talents, to which alone the professional man who has duly qualified himself for his business, can look, as the sure foundation of his hopes. The friends of Dr. Barton only can speak of him in the character of a friend ; and they, if they did justice to his memory, would probably incur the charge of extravagance. We will venture to assert that the impressions which he made upon the hearts of those who were in the enjoyment of his friendship, will never be effaced. It is most consoling to those who immediately feel the loss of this young man, and must be grateful to all to whom it may be known, that in the latter stages of life his impressions of the solemnity of the change which he was about to make, were deep and affecting. He was enabled to look back upon the toil and trials, through which he had passed to the very verge of eminence and usefulness, without a pang of regret : he was enabled to contemplate the fading of earthly prospects and promises with composure ; because he was enabled to look forward to the scenes of an immortal existence with hope and with joy. His friends have suffered a bitter loss : this community has suffered a loss : but he has, we humbly trust, made that exchange which is infinite gain.

The above memoir has been taken from the *Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences*, edited by the learned Professor Chapman, who in a note to the above gives the following addition. "We cannot let the above obituary notice, which has been executed by the hand of kindness, be committed to our pages, without bearing testimony to the truth and fidelity with which the character and attainments of our deceased friend have been delineated. It was our good fortune very early to have become acquainted with Dr. Barton, and the relation of preceptor and pupil was soon ripened into the more intimate connexion of a cordial friendship. He was a man of no ordinary talents, highly cultivated by a liberal education, of great proficiency in his profession, and with that exquisite sense of honor which feels 'a stain like a wound.' Deeply conversant with medical literature, he lent to this journal his ready support, and contributed to it some of its most valuable articles. By the energies of a determined spirit he pushed on in 'sickness and in sorrow,' and though retarded by other trials and difficulties, had already won his way to a very enviable degree of eminence, when it pleased his God to dash the hopes of his friends and his own bright prospects, by the termination of his earthly career."—*Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences*, Vol. 5.

BAYLEY, RICHARD, of New-York. The subject of the following sketch has long since received at the hands of French pathologists the credit so justly his due; but in his own country, excepting some few brief and detached notices by such as from personal knowledge were enabled to speak of him as he was, nothing has been known of him to the profession in general.

It is with feelings of regret that we find ourselves crippled by a want of facts in a biography, which to the philanthropist and physician must necessarily have been peculiarly interesting, and to the student most instructive. But small as are the materials, we cannot consent to their loss, nor force ourselves to believe that the name of Bayley is to be lost from the records of American physicians and surgeons, when his practice and observations did so much, and at so early a period, to bring their profession honorably before foreigners.

Richard Bayley was born at Fairfield, Connecticut, in the year 1745: his father was of English and his mother

of French descent. From this connexion on the mother's side and the residence of his parents amongst the French protestant emigrants at New Rochelle, N. Y. young Bayley was early familiarized with the French language, to which was added an acquaintance with the Latin classics which the constant occupation of his after life prevented him from renewing or continuing. How his youth was passed is unknown. Although some degree of uncertainty rests upon our dates throughout, still a multitude of collateral events tend to prove that the extent of that uncertainty is comprised within a very few months antecedent or posterior to the time assumed. In 1766, when about twenty years of age, we find him engaged as a student of medicine under Dr. Charlton, a much respected physician of the day. Having completed his studies to the perfect satisfaction of his preceptor, by his advice he determined to avail himself of the benefits of the London lectures and hospitals, whither he went in 1769 or 70, having previously married Miss Charlton, the sister of his instructor.

In London he appears to have excited the attention of his instructors by his industry, perseverance and dexterity : for in a letter to his wife, written at this period, he says, "The Anatomist Dr. Hunter gives me great encouragement, and thinks that by applying myself closely to anatomy and the operative part of surgery this winter (1770), which I shall have entirely at my power in his dissecting rooms, and after that to be punctual next summer in my attendance on the hospitals, I may with ease qualify myself for a practitioner in surgery in any part of the world;" adding in the fullness of confidential intercourse "I will mention to you that they tell me I have a very uncommon dexterity with the knife, but this London is a sad place for flattery." Having remained at London a year or two, he returned to New-York in 1772, and commenced practice in connexion with Dr. Charlton.

At this period his attention was first drawn to the then prevalent and fatal\* croup ; a disease of which so little was known that men of high character and good education confounded it (perhaps from its frequent complication with that disorder) with putrid sore throat, and thus, overlooking its inflammatory character, treated it with due regard to the still immortal phantom, putrescency, until extinc-

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\* Michaelis states that until Bayley's active treatment was adopted one half of all affected died.—*Bib. Chi. de Richter.*

tion of life gave full play to a physical demonstration of its existence. How such an error could have been indulged by the observant Bard, we cannot understand ; but are willing to receive his excuse even at the hands of a foreigner, who after remarking that " *L'ouvrage de Bard n'apprend rien de précis sur le siège du croup, et que l'opinion de ce medecin sur la nature de cette maladie est fausse,*"\* thus proceeds, " *Mais les circonstances dans lesquelles se trouvait S. Bard lorsqu'il a écrit sur le croup, excusent, en quelque sorte, l'opinion erronée qu'il a manifestée sur la nature de cette maladie ; l'ouvrage de Home venait de paroître ; l'humorisme regnait encore. Home avait eu occasion de voir le croup simple en Angleterre ; Bard l'observa en Amerique compliqué d'angine couenneuse très intense. C'est pour ces raisons, sans doute, qu'il attribue cette maladie à la putridité, et lorsqu'il observe des phénomènes inflammatoires, il en trouve la cause dans un génie malin qu'il combat par les mercuriaux à haute dose.*"† Such indeed were the prevalent opinions at the period when Bayley's attention was first drawn to this disease, which was in April, 1774, when he saw a child perish in thirty-six hours under the use of stimulants and antiseptics. Another case soon presented itself with a like result ; this he obtained permission to examine, and found an ashy mucus lying upon the palate and tonsils, beneath which covering the lining membrane was found entire, without abrasion, but highly inflamed and gorged with blood. The trachea was lined with an adventitious membrane of extraordinary tenacity, which extended into the bronchial tubes, where it gradually changed into a glairy mucus. Such is his own record of the case. A few days after this examination he saw another child whose voice was loud and hoarse, with sore throat, and ulcers visible upon the tonsils ; this case terminated fatally upon the seventh day. This case was also examined by Bayley, who found the tonsils and the palate both involved in a slough, but no marks of inflammation, nor any membranous deposit in the trachea. Comparing these two cases in his own mind, and reflecting upon their morbid appearances, he was convinced that there were two distinct diseases prevalent, the one of a highly inflammatory character, the other less so ; which diseases might be complicated the one with the

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\* Desruelles *Traite du Croup*, p. 105.

† Desruelles *Traite*, p. 125.



other, and even when so complicated requiring greater energy of treatment than was then generally recommended ; for, as has been stated, the public mind had been misled in a treatise of the day\* by the author's confounding the two diseases ; and yet with the accuracy of the dissections which he appears to have made, how he could have fallen into an error so fatal,† is difficult to conceive ; not intentionally, clearly, for when the treatment of Bayley, of which we shall speak, became so decidedly successful, Bard with honorable regard to truth rejected his own views and adopted those of Bayley.‡ Bard's dissections, as Bayley remarks, show croup in its simple state, and as complicated with the putrid sore throat and sloughs ; which sloughs, as they were termed, were not in croup strictly such, for there was no membranous abrasion beneath, and no ulcers ; they might be wiped off, and the lining membrane would appear whole, though gorged with blood ; therefore Bayley inferred that they were adventitious or newly formed parts of hardened mucus or inspissated lymph, adding the following passage on the pathology of croup, which is the more remarkable as from dates it is evidently antecedent to any other author. " When Angina Trachealis" says Bayley " is theoretically considered, there will probably be formed, as is generally the case when facts are not ascertained, opinions as various as the information and different faculties of men may suggest—I am induced to adopt the following :

" That the larynx, trachea and bronchial pipes have one common membrane, which we are informed by injection consists of little more than an infinity of blood vessels, and is consequently liable to inflammation, as all vascular parts are. An increased action of these vessels, as in pleuritic and puerperal fevers, occasions a preternatural secretion of lymph, which from the ingress and egress of air becomes condensed and assumes the appearance of a membrane, whose compactness will depend upon the age and habit of the patient, the violence of the inflammation and the state of the atmosphere.

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\* Bard's Essay on Angina Suffocativa.

† Bard en rapport a la putridite du Croup administre les Antiseptiques et perd beaucoup de malades.—*Lettres de Michaelis a Richter. Journal Gen. de Med.* t. 36, p. 445.

‡ Cependant ce dernier auteur (Bard) frappe de non succes de sa methode adopta celle de Bayley.—*Desruelles Traite*, p. 296 on the authority of Michaelis. Also *Valentin sur Croup*.

“ The common opinion is that they who die of this complaint, are suffocated by the membrane’s closing the wind-pipe. Another more respectable opinion is that a spasm of the muscles of the larynx closes the scene. The circumstances which precede death in this disease, compared with those appearances which have regularly taken place in the cases which I have seen successfully treated, explain the cause of the patient’s death from the laws of the blood’s circulation. To preserve the healthful state of an animal, it is necessary that the whole mass of blood should circulate through the lungs in a given time ; the free admission and expulsion of air contributes to this regular process ; the change, also, which gradually takes place in the lungs, seems more directly to account for the swelled face, tumid jugulars and the full staring eyes, which are the symptoms that accompany the progress of this complaint ; and add to this that the larynx, trachea, and bronchia have been found pervious in every subject I have dissected, whilst their ramifications have been as regularly filled with a glairy mucus.”\*

Nothing can be more explicit or more accurate than the above, whether we consider it as to its pathology, or as giving in very clear terms the cause of death so long referred, and even at no very distant period, to suffocation from membranous obstruction of the trachea.

Such was the view of croup taken by Bayley in the years 1774 and 5, although not published by him until several years after, as he was always particularly careful to have his facts well weighed before he hazarded them in print : and it is a singular fact that Bayley’s opinions on this disease, and his successful practice in consonance to those opinions, were published in Richter’s *Surgical Repository* several years antecedent to the appearance of his own letter on croup. These opinions were conveyed in the letters of Michaelis, the distinguished chief of the Hessian Medical Staff, whose celebrated dissertation† on this subject had yet to be improved by observations in America derived from the views, practice and dissections of an American surgeon. It is no less true than honorable, that to Richard Bayley did his friend, the celebrated Michaelis, yield up his own opinions of the croup ; and with a candor

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\* Med. Rep. vol. 14, p. 346, Bayley’s pamphlet.

† De Angina polyposa sive membranacea.

and love of truth so characteristic of a scientific man, the titled authority, as he then was, adopted the opinions and practice of a young American physician, the unknown Bayley.

After having thus distinguished himself, Bayley in the autumn of 1775 revisited England, to avail himself of the aid of Hunter and his collection. His conversations with that distinguished man led to a request that Bayley's observations and dissections might be placed before the public : which finally, in 1781, nine years after his opinions were first formed and after they had fully stood the test of experience, was done in the form of a letter to Dr. Hunter, which notwithstanding its merits would long since have perished but for the treasury of the American Medical Repository. Bayley spent a winter in London, where he was busied in studies, dissections and comparisons upon the merits of different modes of treatment and views of disease as evinced in London and Edinburgh, which resulted in a preference of the former.\*

In the spring of 1776 he returned to New-York in the capacity of surgeon in the English army under Howe. This was a step of necessity rather than of inclination, as the sequel proves. For like genius in every clime, Bayley was poor ; and the necessity of a lovely wife and beloved children, will often dictate a course which sober reason might not approve. In the fall of this year he proceeded with the fleet and a detachment of five or six thousand troops which took possession of Newport, Rhode-Island, and was there established as hospital surgeon of that post. His wife being then at New-York and in delicate health, his desires and affections strongly coincided to induce a return to that city ; but the sternness of military law yields not to the entreaties of private affection, whilst the duties of the station forbade even a short furlough. Under these circumstances, his wife being in an exposed city, ill and dependant upon the charity of strangers, the very object of his exertions was lost ; and in addition he learned with mortification that, under a certain term of service, not even a half pay establishment, the object of his entering the service, could be expected. His ardent mind excited by anxiety and distress saw but one alternative left, viz. resignation ; he accordingly threw up his commis-

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\* Vide MS. letter of Edward Stevens to Bayley.

sion, and returned to New-York in the spring of 1777, just in time to receive a last pledge of affection from his expiring wife.

A new scene now opened upon him. Beloved by his former officers, and esteemed by his fellow citizens, he seemed to be fast gaining reputation and comfort ; whilst the influence he possessed with the several commanding officers, was often exerted in saving the lives and rescuing the property of his absent friends and fellow citizens from confiscation or destruction. About this period the croup again made its appearance, and Bayley adopted his old method of treatment, still however instituting post mortem examinations ; one of which in particular, as being very decidedly characteristic of Bayley's views, was shown to Michaelis, and was one of the causes that induced the latter to adopt Bayley's opinion of its highly inflammatory character. Three years afterwards, viz. 1781, his " Letter," was published recommending venesection ad deliquium and from the jugular vein, blisters to the throat, antimony to nauseate and occasionally pushed to emesis, and calomel and enemata as evacuants and alteratives of secretion. It was added in a postscript, " That as a recent publication dissuades from venesection in the advanced stage from a fear of its putrid tendency, he would state that unless ulcers accompany it, there is no fear of putrescency, dissections proving the inflammatory action of the trachea and bronchia and its fatality in the inflammatory stage."

Appended to Bayley's tract is a very interesting and valuable letter to him from that gentleman and scholar, Dr. Middleton, bearing date November 30th, 1780, in which, after adverting to their frequent previous conversations upon the subject, he fully coincides with Bayley's view of the inflammatory nature of the disease, and the efficiency of the prompt remedial applications by him recommended. It is remarkable, however, in this letter of Middleton that nothing is said of emetics ; for it was not to his bold and extensive venesection alone, that Bayley was indebted for success in croup ; he constantly and efficiently employed emetics, generally however premising venesection ; because, in addition to the rapidly inflammatory progress of the disease, he had once observed an emetic to produce convulsions from a want of such preliminary treatment.

All things then considered, it is to Richard Bayley that we are indebted for our present active and successful mode of treatment in croup ; and this method he adopted contrary to popular opinion and in the teeth of professional disapprobation, for he knew that there was but one unerring record of disease, viz. Pathology, and that taught him the highly inflammatory character of croup.

Indeed such was Bayley's attention to morbid anatomy and internal pathology, that it became the subject of invidious objection to him by some of his narrow minded contemporaries, who circulated a report that during his winter residence at Newport he was in the habit of cutting up his patients, and performing cruel experiments upon the sick soldiery.

But Bayley was not only assiduous in cultivating knowledge ; he was likewise disposed to impart it ; and so early as 1787 he delivered lectures, in a then unoccupied edifice since converted into the New-York Hospital, upon surgery, whilst his son-in-law Dr. Wright Post, so distinguished by his subclavian operation, lectured upon anatomy. In the year 1788, however, in consequence of imprudence on the part of some students, the populace became excited against the profession, and the celebrated "Doctors' Mob" broke into the building, especially in its south wing, where they found Bayley's already valuable cabinet, which was forthwith heaped into carts, carried forth and triumphantly buried ; a loss which is the more to be regretted, as in addition to a rare collection in morbid anatomy, of which specimens he had the particular histories, there were some extremely delicate preparations which evinced his anatomical dexterity, as strikingly as the former illustrated the accuracy of his pathological proficiency.

In the spring of 1792 the Faculty of Columbia College, in conformity with their charter privileges, deeming it expedient to erect a medical faculty elected both Bayley and Post as professors, the former of Anatomy, and the latter of Surgery ; but as Dr. Post repaired immediately to London, Bayley discharged the duties of both professorships during the winter of 1792 and 3. Post, however, returning in the fall of 1793 assumed the anatomical chair, whilst Bayley took his favorite subject, surgery, in which he was certainly distinguished as a clear, precise and practical lecturer ; for his surgery was not theoretical nor

founded upon reading and authorities, but was the result of experience and observation. In addition to being a most experienced and successful lithotomist, notwithstanding his constant use of Hawkins' gorget, he also in the year 1782 successfully removed the arm from its glenoid cavity by the operation of the shoulder joint ; an operation at which Dr. Post, then a student, assisted ; and which, as far as it has been in our power to examine, is the first instance of its being practised in the United States, and among the first of its proving completely successful in any country. As an optician, a department of surgery then as little known as it has latterly been widely established through the country by the creditable exertions of two gentlemen whom we are gratified to claim as fellow citizens,\* he gained deserved celebrity ; whilst his general preference of extraction above depression of the lens in cataract, sufficiently indicates his sound judgment and ready skill.

Devoted to his profession, he left no individual exertion unemployed to elevate its character and give permanence to its utility ; hence he was one of the earliest promoters of the New-York Dispensary, as is evinced by his correspondence on that subject with Dr. Bard. To him, then, amongst others are we to ascribe the benefits of that well conducted charity, whose exertions are limited only by a want which in a city like New-York is of all others the most disgraceful, a want of funds.

Soon after the war of the revolution, that scourge of unclean places, yellow fever, appeared among our cities. Its fatality clothed it with all the mysticism implied in the often used though still little understood terms of Contagion, Infection and Pestilence, until the populace became so excited with these chimeras of terrific and mysterious influence, that an attack of this fever became a death warrant to the patient ; from whose presence or proximity physicians, nurses, friends and relatives fled, leaving the sufferer's last hope to be extinguished by the desertion of all whose assiduities and attentions might have soothed at least, if not prevented, his hour of doom. But during this period of alarm Bayley stood firm and undismayed : busied in giving personal attentions to the sick, he became practically familiar with the disease and its more success-

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\* Professor Edward Delafield and Dr. J. K. Rogers, of New-York.

ful remedial applications. Not satisfied with this, he investigated its causation, and in July 20th, 1796, he writes to the Rev. R. C. Moore in reply to a letter from that gentleman inquiring if he might with safety return to the city, that he might so return to the district in which that gentleman resided, as the dock fever, as he termed it, was a murderer of our own creating, whose origin is local and referrible to the recent filling in of docks with filth, offals, the carcasses of horses, &c. &c. affirming "that when a more rigid police prevails to free the city from nuisances, no more will be heard of particular diseases."

In 1797 he published his work "on Yellow Fever," wherein he is at great pains to give distinctiveness to the terms Contagion and Infection, saying "By contagion we understand something peculiar and specific, possessing properties essentially different from any thing else, e. g. measles, smallpox, &c. not requiring the concurrence of certain causes to render them contagious; they are so under all circumstances. But other diseases may or may not be infectious, according to the conditional state in which they are placed."\* In the same essays he adduces the strongest testimony of its local origin. Indeed so strong was his belief upon this point, and so clear and just his conceptions of the causes producing it, that he predicted the very spot where it afterward appeared in the year 1799. This work of Bayley's, now little known except to his contemporaries, is written in a concise, plain and nervous style, with a lucid and methodic arrangement of facts, whence his deductions leave it free for every reader to judge how far the one may justify the other: it is a work purely practical, the fruit of a painful and hazardous experience in the disease, which he most unhesitatingly pronounces not contagious, an opinion, professorial dicta to the contrary notwithstanding, which he never subsequently saw reason to alter or modify, and which has now become the opinion of the impartial practitioners of every clime. His remarks upon the condition of the atmosphere and its remarkable deficiency of electricity combined with excessive humidity, as illustrated by the observations of Mr. Gardiner Baker at the museum, are highly curious and valuable, and strongly tend to corroborate his views and opinions.

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\* Essay on Yellow Fever, p. 38.

Not satisfied with this exposition of his opinion and practice, and having in 1795 or 6 been appointed Health Physician to the port of New-York, he in 1798 published "Letters from the Health Office submitted to the New-York Common Council," being a series of letters in the years '96—7 and 8 ; one letter, dated December 4th, 1798, assigns his reasons why the fever of '98 was more extensively prevalent than in '95—6 or 7, which refer to the excessive rains flooding large portions of the city, its low levels, new made ground and a hot sun.

In this same year, 1798, a correspondence took place between Governor Mifflin, of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia College of Physicians, and afterward between the city of Philadelphia and the city of New-York. In the course of this a proposition was made by the Philadelphia committee to the committee of New-York, soliciting their co-operation in a memorial to the general government for a Quarantine Law, in which, amongst other clauses, one amounting to the total exclusion of all West India commerce, or a non-intercourse act for the summer months, was proposed ; but it was objected to by the New-York committee. A modified memorial was, however, jointly presented to the Congress of the United States, for the passage of some general Quarantine Regulations. This exactly suited Bayley, who served on one of the New-York committees, for he had been long and ardently engaged winter after winter at the capitol of New-York, seeking the adoption and enactment of certain regulations proposed by him ; and he in fact is the person to whom we are chiefly indebted for our State Quarantine Laws, although they have been since altered and amended. Accordingly Bayley seized this opportunity of impressing upon the general government the propriety of a quarantine establishment or lazaretto below and at a distance from the city, or port of entry, where suspected vessels might be brought to anchor, examined, suffered to pass on if deemed proper, or unladen, ventilated and purified ; the sick removed from their confined situation on ship board, and comfortably established in a well appointed hospital, &c. &c.

Accordingly this joint petition was granted by the passage of the Act of 1799. In November of that year Bayley addressed a letter to Governor Jay upon the fever of 1798, in which, after referring to his pamphlet on the fever of 1795, and recapitulating its local causes, he remarks



that cool weather, thunder and rain suspended it for a time, and that its extension from its source was in the direction of the prevalent winds ; adding that moist weather not only predisposes to the causation of this disease, but also predisposes the constitution to be more easily acted upon by it, whilst in a hot dry air there is less liability to its spreading, as it then requires persons to be influenced at the place where the exciting cause is most concentrate, spreading very little beyond that point. He concludes by dwelling on the importance of being aware of its local origin, in order to remedy it by the adoption of suitable and efficient means ; and he particularly animadvertes upon the then prevalent mode of making new ground, and states that, in a district which suffered under this condition, after covering the surface with a few feet of fresh and good earth the fever soon began to abate, the weather remaining unchanged. Human contagion he denies, adducing as a proof that there was no instance of a nurse or attendant in the hospitals taking the disease ; but that it may be conveyed by goods or fomites, as they are technically termed, he gives an instance by stating that, when the hospital at Bedlow's Island was first opened, for want of proper bedding, &c. the old ones which had that summer been used for fever patients, had been brought unventilated from Bellevue to it, and that such as were engaged in their transportation, and the nurses who received and arranged them, fell a sacrifice to the disease ; but every thing went on well after their destruction and purification.

But the period had now arrived when Bayley was to end a life of active utility upon the very spot and in the very cause where his labors had been so extensively beneficial to his profession and to humanity. In the discharge of his duty as Health Physician in August, 1801, he directed the passengers and crew of an Irish emigrant ship with ship fever to go on shore to the rooms and tents appointed for them, leaving their baggage behind. This was in the evening ; early the following morning upon going to the Hospital he found that his orders had been disobeyed ; and that crew and passengers, men, women and children, well, sick and dying, with all their baggage, were huddled together in one apartment, where they had passed the night. Into this apartment, before it had been ventilated, he imprudently entered and remained but a moment ; being compelled to retire by the most deadly sickness at

stomach and intense pain in the head, which seized him immediately upon entering the apartment. Returning home he retired to bed, and in the afternoon of the seventh day following he expired, leaving behind him a high character as a clinically instructed physician, an excellent and bold operator, a prompt practitioner, of rapid diagnosis and unhesitating decision. In demeanor a perfect gentleman; honest and chivalrously honorable; of perfect integrity, and therefore little tolerant of obliquity in others; ever ready to serve the cause of his profession; inflexible in his attachments; invincible in his dislikes, and unbrooking of insult: in temper fiery, yet suddenly cool; a fault which he knew and regretted; thoroughly fearless, somewhat too strongly partial to certain patients, but withal charitable to a fault.—*MS. Letter to the Author.*

BAYNHAM, WILLIAM, ESQ. Surgeon, was the son of Dr. John Baynham of Caroline County, Virginia, and was born December 1749. After having devoted five years of his early life to acquiring the elements of his profession under the auspices of Dr. Walker, at that time considered as one of the most eminent surgeons in America, and thus by a regular and laborious apprenticeship laid that foundation for future eminence, which unfortunately by too many is deemed unnecessary, he was sent by his parents or guardians to complete his education in London in 1769, where he entered as a student at St. Thomas's Hospital.

Here he soon acquired the notice of Mr. Else, the Professor of Anatomy, which ripened into a reciprocal attachment that continued through life. Under his direction he became particularly attached to the study of anatomy and surgery, and by application and perseverance he soon acquired a complete knowledge of both these departments of science. He was remarkable for unwearied and minute attention and diligence in every thing he attempted, and thereby ensured success if at all attainable. As a proof of his early anatomical knowledge it may be mentioned that he was employed in 1772 by the Professor of Anatomy at Cambridge to dissect and prepare the subjects for his lectures. Mr. Baynham continued to assist the Professor in his dissections, &c. for several winters, and in the remaining part of the year was a partner of Mr. Slater, an eminent surgeon of Margate, which was a very profitable and agreeable connexion, as appears from some observations in Mr. Baynham's own hand writing. Whilst he was in this

situation he received an invitation from Mr. Else, the distinguished Professor of Anatomy at St. Thomas's, to return to London and become his assistant demonstrator. A proposition so flattering and apparently so advantageous, was immediately acceded to by Mr. Baynham, with the consent of Mr. Slater, who, however, wishing to retain him, offered him an equal share in the partnership.

Mr. Baynham engaged with Mr. Else on the following terms : he was to superintend the anatomical theatre and dissecting room, prepare the bodies for his public demonstrations, make preparations for the museum, and to instruct the pupils in the arts of dissecting, injecting, making anatomical preparations, &c. with a salary of eighty and ninety pounds the two first years, and one hundred pounds a year for five succeeding years ; at the expiration of which (having qualified himself in the interim for the office) Mr. Else was to relinquish to him the professor's chair, or to take him as joint professor on equal terms, as he (Mr. Baynham) might choose. Having returned to St. Thomas's he pursued his occupation with unremitting assiduity, and thereby acquired that minute knowledge of anatomy for which he was so justly celebrated. He prepared for the museum more than three times the number of rare and valuable preparations which he found there. Their connexion continued five years, at the end of which time Mr. Else died suddenly of an apoplexy, without making any preparation for him as his successor. Mr. Baynham was even an entire stranger to the governors of the Hospital, in whom was vested the power of appointing a successor to the late professor. His reputation as an anatomist and surgeon, however, was so well established, that when the election was made his opponent obtained the appointment by one vote only, and that because two of Mr. Baynham's friends were absent.

Mr. Else bequeathed to him the museum by his will at the price of six hundred pounds, which he afterwards sold to Mr. Cline, who obtained the appointment, for eight hundred pounds ; reserving to himself some very beautiful and valuable preparations which were on hand and unfinished at the time, and which with others occasionally made by himself, were sold for one hundred guineas to Mr. Blizard, Professor of Anatomy in the London hospital. Among these was a very fine preparation of a testis, beautifully injected, which satisfactorily decided the long dis-

puted question between Else, Pott, Hunter, and others, whether in the operation for hydrocele by caustic as performed by Else the cure was effected by adhesion, or by a total destruction of the tunica vaginalis, as was asserted by Else. In this case the caustic was applied in his ordinary way by Mr. Else, and, the patient having died of another disease, Mr. Baynham dissected out the parts and injected them by the spermatic artery with a very fine injection colored with vermilion. The tunica vaginalis was much thickened, but otherwise perfectly sound in every part, except where the caustic had acted; and every appearance clearly demonstrated the actual existence of what Mr. Hunter termed adhesive inflammation and, conjointly with the appearance of soundness in the tunica vaginalis, established the fact beyond a doubt, that the cure is performed by adhesion and not by the destruction of the sack.

Mr. Baynham injected and demonstrated a fine vascular membrane on the surface of the cutis immediately under the rete mucosum, separate and distinct from the cutis and capable of separation from it throughout its whole extent. Dr. William Hunter was satisfied of this fact from the preparations which were made and shown to him, expressing his surprise by saying, "what have we been doing so long, that we never observed this before?" Mr. Cruikshanks was then about to publish his observations on the absorbents, and proposed to attach an account of this discovery to his book, which was agreed to; and in that book is the only notice of it which the writer of this has seen, except one apparently taken from the same source in Wistar's Anatomy. The account given by Cruikshanks is a gross misrepresentation, and an attempt to confound this with that part of the cutis he had been operating upon to discover the seat of the variolous pustules. He presented a copy of this work to Mr. Baynham, which has on its margin various remarks in his (Mr. Baynham's) writing, expressing his indignation against the author for so doing, and clearly marking what he ought to have published. This membrane explains the seat and appearance of erysipelatous inflammation, the cure of it by blistering, and the probability that scarification through this membrane would arrest its progress, and accounts for the progress of superficial gangrene being stopped by a blister applied above it.

On the 7th day of June, 1781, Mr. Baynham became a member of the company of surgeons of London (which is

to the surgeon what the degree of M. D. is to the physician) and commenced the practice of surgery in London, and probably continued to do so while he remained in that city. Having resided sixteen years in England, Mr. Baynham returned to his native country, and shortly after settled in Essex, where he continued until his death, which took place on the 8th of December, 1814, having the day before completed the 66th year of a life which had been actively and usefully spent in the pursuit of a laborious profession and in the service of his fellow creatures. It is not to be wondered at that having laid such a solid foundation, and brought with him so distinguished a reputation, he should immediately obtain an extensive practice, and support and even augment his celebrity. To enumerate the different operations upon which his reputation rested, would be superfluous; many are already known to the public, and especially to medical men. There is scarcely any difficult operation in surgery which he did not perform, and with almost invariable success. He particularly signalized himself by several operations for stone, cataract and extra-uterine conception. A detailed account of a case of the latter may be seen by reference to the New-York Medical and Surgical Journal.

It is no small proof of the superior merit of Mr. Baynham, that, notwithstanding the obscure and confined theatre of his practice, his talents hidden as they were in some measure from the public eye by the seclusion of a country life, and restricted by a limited population, he acquired a reputation quite as splendid and almost as extensive as any of those eminent surgeons, who possessed for the display of their abilities the advantage of the most populous cities, and the most conspicuous official stations. He was frequently sent for to our large cities and sometimes even into other states. He was applied to for advice by persons living in remote parts of the union, and had patients attending him at his own residence who were brought thither by his fame to obtain the benefit of his skill. As a surgeon, it is probable that Mr. Baynham had no superior; as an anatomist, it is certain that he had none. The most ample testimonies exist to prove the respect in which his talents have always been held both in Europe and America. He is always mentioned by the several Professors of Anatomy in our Universities in their lectures with the greatest respect, and we have heard a distinguished teacher assert

that he considered him in the art of making anatomical preparations only second to Ruysch. One remark I will add, says his biographer, which is that Dr. Physick and Mr. Baynham are the only persons whom I know in America that have really improved the surgical profession. It has been falsely supposed by some, who were probably misled by his great surgical reputation, that he was not eminent as a physician. But if success can be assumed as a criterion of excellence, he deserved the highest credit in the latter character ; and accordingly it has been awarded him by the suffrages of those who had the best opportunity of judging of his merit, his own patients. To the superficial observer, who measures the altitude of the mind by the vibrations of the tongue, and considers fluency and eloquence of discourse as the only unerring criterion of talents, he could not have appeared worthy of his high reputation. He was slow and not very distinct in the enunciation of his ideas. Entirely unambitious of ornament, talking only to be understood and never for effect, despising the prismatic glare of factitious refinement and exaggerating declamation, by which the feebleness of the idea is so often concealed beneath the splendor of the dress, it is not to be wondered at that he seldom made a favorable impression on strangers, and that he generally on first acquaintance disappointed those whose expectations had been raised, and whose opinion of him had been formed from the report of fame.

We now approach that part of his character which to himself and to his posterity is of infinitely more importance than all the fame and all the favors which the world can bestow, his moral worth, his merit as a man and a member of the great human family. In most of the relations in which Mr. Baynham was connected with society, he discharged all his duties in an unusually exemplary manner. That he had some eccentricities of temper must be confessed, but that they have been exaggerated by malicious observers is also true. With an exterior somewhat gloomy and austere he possessed the kindest and most philanthropic feelings—indeed few men had naturally warmer hearts. In him the poor ever found a friend and benefactor ready by the humane offices of his skill to assuage the pangs of bodily disease, or by his beneficent liberality, which sometimes bordered even on munificence, to relieve them from the equally cruel pangs of poverty.

He was one of those very few men, says another writer, whose loss will be a public misfortune, for I know not who is to succeed him in Virginia as a surgeon. In his profession he was second to Dr. Physick only, and nothing but the most narrow, inveterate and malignant jealousy could asperse his medical reputation. He was a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and consequently had the same standing in the profession as Pott, John Hunter, Cooper and Abernethy. In the dissecting room he was pre-eminent, being unquestionably the best practical anatomist in Great Britain. The best preparations in the museum of Messrs. Cline and Cooper were made by him; one particularly of a female breast, it is supposed, has never been equalled.

His name is mentioned in anatomical works as the discoverer of the vascularity of the rete mucosum. In the first volume of the Medical and Philosophical Journal and Review printed in New-York, is a paper of Mr. Baynham containing an account of an operation which he is supposed to be the first to have performed successfully, and in the Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences are to be found many posthumous publications of surgical cases, which reflect the highest honor on his talents and character.—*Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences*, Vol. 4.

BEATTY, JOHN, M.D. This gentleman was a native of Buck's county, Pennsylvania, but received his education in New-Jersey, where he resided for more than forty years of his life. He was the eldest son of a clergyman of distinguished piety, learning and usefulness, and descended from Governor Reading of New-Jersey, who was his maternal grandfather. He was graduated at Princeton in the year 1769, and was highly respected for his diligence and learning; and afterwards studied the science of medicine under the celebrated Dr. Rush.

In the vigor of youth at the commencement of the revolutionary war, his pacific profession was soon exchanged for the habiliments of the warrior; at a very early period of that contest, he enrolled himself among the defenders of his country, and so rapid was his promotion, that in September 1776, he had attained the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Pennsylvania line. In this capacity he greatly distinguished himself, until by the unfortunate capture of Fort Washington in the autumn of that year,

he was consigned to imprisonment by the enemy at a crisis when the severity of their treatment exceeded that of any other period of the war. It was a considerable time before he was exchanged, and the hardships endured in his military career materially impaired his constitution and health, which it was some years before he fully recovered. Being able at length to resume the active duties of life, he was appointed in the year 1779 successor to Elias Boudinot, Esq. in the responsible and laborious office of commissary general of prisoners, which station it is believed he held till the conclusion of the war, and in which he was particularly distinguished for activity and fidelity in the discharge of his duty.

At the close of the war he settled at Princeton, where he pursued his professional calling as a physician with approbation and success. At different times he was elected a member of both branches of the legislature, and was chosen speaker of the house of assembly ; he also represented the county of Middlesex in the convention which adopted the federal constitution. In 1793 he was elected to congress ; and served in that body with distinction as an active and useful member. After the death of Samuel W. Stockton, Esq. then secretary of the state, the office was conferred on General Beatty by the legislature at the autumnal session of 1795, the duties of which he most faithfully and ably discharged for the space of ten years. He was soon after selected by the Delaware Bridge Company to superintend the erection of the bridge across the Delaware at Bloomsbury. After the decease of the late Col. Jonathan Rhea, he was elected president of the Trenton bank, which appointment he held with unblemished integrity, for the last eleven years of his life. He was a member of the society of Cincinnati of New-Jersey, and held the office of treasurer at the time of his decease, which took place April 30th, 1826, in the 78th year of his age. For many years before his death he was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church in Trenton.

BELDEN, DR. JOSHUA, was born in Wethersfield, Connecticut, March 29th, 1768. He was the son of the Rev. Joshua Belden, long the pious and exemplary minister of that place, under whose instruction and influence he was trained in correct habits, and taught the usefulness of good principles by which his future life was controlled. He was prepared for Yale College under the tuition of the



Rev. Dr. Perkins of West Hartford, and having passed his collegiate course with reputation both as a scholar and a youth of correct deportment, he received his degree in 1787 at the age of nineteen years. After leaving college he commenced the study of divinity under the instruction of the Rev. Dr. Smalley of Berlin ; he continued, however, but a short time, when he changed his plan of life, and commenced and pursued the study of medicine under the direction of the celebrated Dr. Lemuel Hopkins of Hartford. When prepared for practice, by the influence of his venerable father he took up his residence as the physician of his native village, where he soon gained the entire confidence of the people. He was well furnished with books, and made it his care to unite study with practice, as the surest mode of being always prepared for the duties of his profession, and of increasing and correcting his experience, by comparing the observations of others with his own.

The native tenderness of his feelings, cultivated by habits of kindness to those whom he visited, rendered him extremely solicitous for their safety and recovery, and their cases would dwell upon his mind with such intensity as often to deprive him of his sleep. Such was the general satisfaction in the skill and judgment of Dr. Belden, that the inhabitants considered themselves as enjoying under his care all that could be reasonably desired in the healing art, and it is gratifying to the lover of excellence to hear his old patients at this day portray his merits as a physician and his kindness and sympathy as a man. The traits of his character in domestic and social life were honorable, for he was affable, frank and sincere, full of filial piety and respect for his venerable father, who at the age of ninety years leaned upon him with satisfaction as his staff and comfort in life. He was employed in various offices of public trust, and took a warm interest in public improvements, in the diffusion of general knowledge, in literature and in education. He was an ardent friend and supporter of religious and charitable institutions, and public schools ; and his whole life was an exhibition of moral and religious virtues. Dr. Belden fell a victim to the fatal epidemic called spotted fever, prematurely and suddenly, June 6th, 1818, aged forty years.

BIRD, DR. SETH, was born in Bethlem, state of Connecticut in 1733. He studied his profession under the in-

struction of the eccentric Dr. Hurlbut of Berlin, and settled in the town of Litchfield, society of South Farms, where he soon gained great and extensive celebrity as a physician. Dr. Lemuel Hopkins, who was his pupil, used to say of him that he was the greatest physician with whom he was ever acquainted, and believed him not inferior to Boerhaave himself.

Dr. Bird possessed a vigorous and investigating mind, ardent love of his profession, and zeal in its pursuit. He was more distinguished for acute sagacity, correct judgment, and talent at discrimination, than for learning or science; his reading was principally confined to his profession, and he became early acquainted with the works of Boerhaave, probably while yet a student with Dr. Hurlbut, who understood them better perhaps than any man of his time in the state. Dr. Bird was enthusiastic in his attachment to the works of this great author, and to the last day of his medical career, would vindicate his theory and practice from the aspersions of the more modern followers of Cullen and Brown, with much warmth of feeling and force of argument.

In his person Dr. Bird was of middle size, rather corpulent, his complexion dark, hair black, face ruddy; his speech was slow and apparently laborious. He had a peculiar mode of raising his hand when about to speak, which was always an indication that something was to be said; his remarks were learned and pithy, often severe and sarcastical, and sometimes on medical subjects he was interesting and even eloquent. His education was limited in general science and literature, but nature made him a philosopher and a physician; he had a genius for investigation, and a relish for inquiry into the operations of nature, especially as regarded man in a healthy or diseased state. His prescriptions were simple, often inelegant, but always well adapted to the circumstances of his cases. His powers of memory were remarkable, which, joined to correct judgment and habits of observation, with the very ample opportunities which his extensive practice afforded, enabled him to accumulate a vast fund of experience. Dr. Bird was employed in consultation more frequently than any other in a wide extent of country, and he was always precise in point of punctuality on such occasions; he once reproved a young physician, whom he met, for a short delay, observing that he had never made a physician wait

a moment during a practice of forty years, although he lived in a thinly settled country and often rode from thirty to fifty miles.

His last illness was lingering, he being of a dropsical habit induced by liberal potations of ardent spirits, to which he was greatly addicted in the last years of his life. His coffin was made by his directions a considerable time before his death, and kept constantly by the side of his chair; being asked by a friend if it did not make him melancholy to have that unwelcome tenement so constantly in view, "No," said he with his significant motion of the hand, "I shall slide into it in a few days." He lived to the age of seventy-two years, and died in 1805. Dr. Bird acquired a handsome fortune by his professional business and rigid economy, while others of his standing with equal advantages died without property.

BOND, THOMAS, M. D. This celebrated physician and surgeon was a native of Maryland, and studied his profession there under Dr. Hamilton, a very learned practitioner. Afterward he travelled in Europe, and spent a considerable time in Paris, where he attended the practice of the Hotel Dieu.

He began the practice of medicine in Philadelphia about the year 1734, and soon attracted the public attention. He was the founder of the college and academy, and one of the most active managers of the Pennsylvania hospital at its commencement. With his brother Dr. Phineas Bond and Dr. Lloyd Zachary, he made the first offer to attend that institution as physicians and surgeons. In the year 1769 Dr. Bond was selected to give clinical lectures in the Pennsylvania Hospital, and about the same time he drew up some useful medical memoirs, which were published in a periodical work in London. He was an officer of the Philosophical Society from its first establishment, and appears by the old records to have been a member of a smaller society instituted in 1743, of which Dr. Benjamin Franklin, William Coleman, John Bartram, Thomas Godfrey the inventor of the quadrant, and Dr. Phineas Bond were also members. This society in 1768 united with another which had also been a long time in existence, and the two bodies then assumed the name and form which are now employed. The original proposals for this society, drawn up by Dr. Franklin himself, may be

seen in the American Medical and Philosophical Register, Volume II.

Dr. Bond's publications were, 1. An account of a worm bred in the liver ; Medical Observations and Inquiries of London, Volume I, dated May 1, 1754. This was the case of Charles Holt of Philadelphia. Upon dissection, the liver was found very much enlarged and partly scirrhus. On its internal part there was a large cavity containing nearly two quarts filled with bloody water, and a few lumps of coagulated blood. The worm was annular, and discharged by stool a short time before death in two parts. The first was thrown away before Dr. Bond saw it, but from the description given to him by the sister of the sufferer and by the nurse, and the resemblance of the remainder to that described by Mr. Paisley in the second volume of the Edinburgh Medical Essays, this appears to be exactly of the same kind.

2. A Letter to Dr. Fothergill on the use of the Peruvian Bark in Scrofula. Two cases are related of the decided efficacy of the bark. The disease appeared in the form of numerous tumors, some of which were ulcerated. Medical Inquiries and Observations, Volume II.

In 1782 he delivered the annual address before the American Philosophical Society. The subject was "The rank and dignity of man in the scale of being, and the conveniences and advantages he derives from the arts and sciences, and a prognostic of the increasing grandeur and glory of America, founded on the nature of its climate." He was for half a century in the first practice in Philadelphia, and remarkable for attention to the cases under his care, and his sound judgment. He was an excellent surgeon, and in the year 1768 performed two operations of lithotomy in the Pennsylvania Hospital with success.

By nature Dr. Bond was of a delicate constitution, and disposed to pulmonary consumption, for which he went a voyage when a young man to the island of Barbadoes. By unremitted care of his health, the strictest attention to diet and to guard against the changes of temperature, and also by frequently losing blood, when he found his lungs affected, he lived to an age which the greater part of mankind never reach. He died in the year 1784, aged 72.

BOND, PHINEAS, M. D. This gentleman was several years younger than his brother Thomas abovemention-

ed. He also was educated in Maryland, the place of his nativity, and subsequently studied medicine upon a most extensive scale. He passed a considerable time at Leyden, Paris, Edinburgh and London, and was not less disposed to promote than well qualified to judge of every undertaking for the improvement of the medical character of his country. In conjunction with the much respected Thomas Hopkinson, he originated the scheme of the college, now the University of Pennsylvania.

He enjoyed a high reputation as a successful practitioner of medicine in Philadelphia. Not practising surgery he moved in a different line from his brother ; but no medical man of his time in this country left behind him a higher character for professional sagacity, or the amiable qualities of the heart. He was remarkable for conviviality, but never habituated to intemperance. He died in June 1773, aged fifty-six years.

BOWEN, PARDON, M. D. This accomplished physician and excellent man was born in Providence, Rhode-Island, on the 22d of March, in the year 1757. His remote ancestors were useful and highly respectable members of the society in which they lived ; and the irreproachable name they left behind them several of their descendants have signalized in the medical history of Rhode-Island, by no ordinary attainments in professional science, and by a diligent, successful and honorable practice. Richard Bowen, the ancestor of this family, emigrated to this country about the year 1640.

The subject of this notice was the fifth son of Dr. Ephraim Bowen, an eminent physician of Providence, whose valuable life, protracted to near a century, terminated in the year 1812. During the professional career of this venerable patriarch, the character of the prevailing diseases in Providence and the adjacent region underwent material changes, produced, it is not unreasonable to conclude, partly by the gradual melioration of the climate, and partly by those habits of life which accompany a progressive advancement in the comforts and luxuries of social existence. Of these changes it is unnecessary to produce more than two examples. Fever and ague, and dysentery were formerly extremely prevalent in and around Providence. A case of the former, it is believed, has not originated in that town for more than half a century, and the latter, which is seldom epidemic, has parted with

much of its former malignancy, and yields generally, except in the case of children, to judicious medical treatment.

The incidents of Dr. Pardon Bowen's early life, we have been unable to collect with sufficient accuracy to warrant us in committing them to the pages of an authentic memoir. The companions of his youth unite their testimony in praise of his singular exemption from the vices and the follies of youth. They speak with unchecked complacency of his amiable conduct and manners in the different relations of life, of the disciplined enthusiasm of his heart, and the well directed energies of his understanding. His academical education he acquired at Rhode-Island College, now Brown University, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Manning, receiving in the year 1775, at the age of eighteen, the honors of that institution. After the usual course of preparatory study, under the direction of his brother Dr. William Bowen, he in the year 1779 embarked as the surgeon of a private armed ship, fitted out for the destruction of British commerce. He was soon destined to experience the fortune of war, the ship being captured and carried to Halifax, where during an imprisonment of seven months he endured no common privations and sufferings. After being regularly exchanged, he returned home, and with ardor undiminished by the disastrous issue of his first cruise, he in the course of the two subsequent years engaged in several enterprises of a similar nature. Capture and imprisonment were the result of two of these cruises, and a third was signalized by an obstinate engagement for more than two hours with an enemy's vessel, which was finally captured, though not without bloodshed. After experiencing a variety of perilous fortune, he reached home some time in the year 1782, and never again committed himself to the chances of war or encountered the storms of the ocean.

In all his domestic connexions Dr. B. was blessed and happy beyond the common lot of man. Early in life he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ward, daughter of Henry Ward, Esq. for many years secretary of the state of Rhode-Island. This lady, who participated with him largely in educating an interesting family, still survives.

Resolved to establish himself in his native town, he in the year 1783 repaired to Philadelphia, for the purpose of perfecting himself in the knowledge of his profession. In

the distinguished medical school of that city he was a diligent student, and profited largely by the instructions of its eminent professors. Accomplishing the laudable object of his temporary residence in Philadelphia, he returned to Providence and immediately commenced the practice of his profession in its different branches. He did not escape the lot of nearly all young physicians at their outset in professional life. Entering upon a field already preoccupied by more experienced practitioners, his early practice was far from extensive, and several years elapsed before his persevering endeavors were adequately rewarded. He continued, however, to advance steadily in the confidence and favor of the community till ample success filled the measure of his hopes. For a long series of years prior to the lamented calamity which terminated his usefulness, he was almost incessantly engaged in professional duty, his reputation as an eminent physician and surgeon being extensive and undisputed, and his character as a man composed of such pure and bland elements, that love and veneration mingled for him their spontaneous tribute. Dr. Bowen was devoted to his profession. He perceived its important relation to the comfort and happiness of society; and faithful to his high trust, he indulged no complacent toleration for the arrogant pretensions of ignorance and empiricism. To his patients of every description he was invariably faithful, and, though devotedly fond of domestic satisfactions, and alive to the pure relishes of social converse, he never postponed the wants of the sick to the joys of his own fireside or to the attractions of general society.

During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Providence, when dejection and dismay sat upon many a brow, and the sense of personal danger threatened to absorb the sympathies of our common nature, and death mocked at the expedients of human science to avert his blow, Dr. Bowen shrunk not from the perils in his way. More than once was his life endangered by an attack of that fearful malady, but God preserved him from thus becoming a victim to his noble intrepidity in the service of humanity.

Dr. Bowen confined his attention to no particular department of his profession, but aimed at excellence in all. For his skill in operative surgery he was highly respected; and during many years most of the surgical operations in and around Providence were performed by him. In medi-

cal surgery he was thought to be extremely judicious; and his uncommon science, experience and success in obstetrics left him without a superior in that difficult branch of his profession. In the treatment of fevers and of chronic affections generally, he was excelled by no one within his sphere of practice. Wedded to no system, he followed the indications of nature and the directions of true science, avoiding a timid caution on the one hand, and unauthorized experiments on the other, never dogmatizing in support of a favorite opinion, but seeking to establish the truth by sound analogies and cautious induction. For much of his skill and success as a practitioner he was indebted to his nice philosophical discernment of the moral, intellectual and physical idiosyncrasies of his patients. He regarded man not simply as a machine, but as a being mysteriously compounded and organized, exposed to morbid influences from the combined operation of moral and physical agencies.

Dr. Bowen contributed occasionally to the medical journals of the day, and in the fourth volume of Hosack and Francis's Medical and Philosophical Register may be found an elaborate account from his pen of the Yellow Fever, as it prevailed in Providence in the year 1805. Desirous to keep pace with the progress of his profession, he was diligent in reading those periodical publications which treat of new phenomena in diseases and improved modes of medical treatment.

Dr. B. was an active member of the Rhode-Island Medical Society, and for some time its presiding officer. He was also a fellow of the American Antiquarian Society, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Brown University.

In the winter of 1820 the professional usefulness of this eminent and beloved physician was terminated by an attack of hemiplegia, which seized him without premonition, and threatened the immediate extinction of life. The worst fears of his friends were not, however, thus suddenly realized; he partially recovered the use of his limbs, and not long afterward retired to the residence of his son-in-law, Franklin Greene, Esq. at Potowomut (Warwick) about fifteen miles from Providence. This spot had been for many years his favorite retreat from the toils of professional life, and was destined to receive his last sigh. There, in the bosom of an affectionate family, he passed years of suffering, which, though sometimes relieved by



intermission and cheered by the hope of restoration, was but too often exasperated to agony, in spite of every alleviation which the instinctive promptitude and ingenuity of affection could administer. These, however, were not years of melancholy vacuity, of hopeless dejection, or of monotonous anguish. The exercise of benevolent affections, the reciprocation of domestic endearments, and the pleasures of a cultivated intellect, brightened the path of the sufferer with intermittent gleams of tranquil enjoyment, while christianity, with its train of gracious influences, purified him for the joys and comforted him with the hopes of heaven. In his hours of health and ease, he had an eye for nature, he loved her sweetest influences, he observed her mighty energies, her wonderful operations, her varied appearances of sublimity and beauty, and he delighted to refer these glorious things to the wisdom and benignity of the Parent of the universe. But it was in the page of revealed truth, it was in the life giving energy of the doctrines, precepts and promises of the Bible, that he found the only adequate support and solace, when pain and anguish came upon him, and his way upon the earth looked dark. Death at last approached, kindly commissioned to relieve him from protracted suffering, and, sustained by the promises of that Savior in whom alone he trusted, he cheerfully resigned his being on the 25th of October, 1826, aged 69 years.

We cannot close this imperfect sketch without again adverting to the personal character of Dr. B. ; and, happily, such were the gifts and graces of his moral being, that in dwelling upon these there is no hazard of incurring the charge of exaggeration. By his friends he was, indeed, a man to be ardently loved ; for they daily witnessed the benignity of his nature, the engaging suavity of his manners, the variety and richness and clear intelligence of his conversation, the generous expansion of his sensibilities, and the inflexible rectitude of his principles. The pressure of business never made him careless of the feelings and interests of others. Indeed he was remarkable for that moral cultivation which respects the rights of all, and few showed a nicer discernment of the essential peculiarities which distinguish one being from another, and a more benevolent and delicate adjustment of conduct to all in every class. Notwithstanding his elevated reputation as a physician, and the opulence of his intellectual attainments, he was on

all occasions a pattern of engaging modesty, seeking rather to promote the happiness of others than to win their applause. Singularly exempt from that feverish thirst for distinction which is allayed by the cheap honors of society, he was happy in his walk of revered but unobtrusive usefulness, ministering to the comfort of his fellow creatures when bereaved of health, or oppressed by poverty, or sinking in death. Though for nearly half a century engaged in the active discharge of professional duty, his heart retained its original purity, uncorrupted by an undue attachment either to wealth or to fame. His fortune was never ample, but the stream of his beneficence flowed with an equal and unchecked current. Such were some of the prominent characteristics of Dr. Pardon Bowen. He had high capacities, and he exerted them for the good of his kind. His life, in all its stages, was a beautiful exhibition of the virtues, and, at its close, an example of christian holiness. His pure spirit, while on earth, took a wide and lofty range; and now that it has ascended to its Maker, the belief is not presumptuous that it is gladdened by the joys of Heaven, and sublimed by the contemplations of immortality.—*William G. Goddard, Professor in Brown University.*

BOWEN, WILLIAM C., M. D. was the only son of Dr. William Bowen of Providence, who is at this time actively engaged in professional business, and enjoying the undiminished confidence of the most respectable part of the community, though arrived at the advanced age of eighty years. The subject of this notice was born June 2, 1785. He entered Rhode-Island College, but removed to Union College in the State of New-York with the Rev. Dr. Maxey, at the time he accepted the presidency of that institution, and was graduated there in 1803. On his return to Providence he commenced the study of medicine with his uncle Dr. Pardon Bowen, with whom he continued till 1806, when he embarked for Europe to complete his education. He studied in Edinburgh under the instruction of Professor Hamilton, and in 1809 received his degree, choosing for the subject of his dissertation "*De Sanguine Mittendo.*" Having passed some months in Holland and Paris, he returned to London and became the private pupil of Sir Astley Cooper, with whom he continued till August, 1811, when he returned to Providence and there commenced the practice of physic and

surgery. In 1812 he was chosen professor of chemistry in Brown University, and subsequently delivered two courses of lectures. At this time he commenced a course of experiments to discover the basis of the bleaching liquor, which was just discovered and applied in England, preparatory to the formation of a bleaching establishment in Providence; and it was the exposure of his lungs to the action of powerful acids in this pursuit, that laid the foundation of the disease that finally destroyed him, April 23d, 1815, in the thirtieth year of his age. In the death of Dr. William C. Bowen, Rhode-Island lost its brightest ornament of the medical profession. No one before his time enjoyed the advantages of such distinguished instructors so great a length of time, and with his ardor in the pursuit of professional knowledge, his discriminating and comprehensive powers of mind, he was uncommonly capable of being improved by such advantages. His suavity and kindness of manner endeared him to all who were the subjects of his professional care, and no one could be more successful in gaining the respect and confidence of the good and the wise; in proof of which it may be observed that his preceptor, Dr. Hamilton of Edinburgh, called on him as a consulting physician in a perilous disease of his own wife, and the writer of this notice had the satisfaction of hearing very honorable mention made of his acquirements by Sir Astley Cooper. His labors upon chlorine, though destructive to his own property and life, laid the foundation of the present very flourishing bleaching establishments of Rhode-Island, which, in connexion with the extensive manufacturing interest of the state, have become of immense value to the proprietors and to the public generally.—*U. Parsons.*

**BOYLSTON, DR. ZABDIEL, F.R.S.** This distinguished gentleman was the son of Dr. Thomas Boylston, a native of England, who, after obtaining the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Oxford, came over to America, and settled at Brookline, Massachusetts, in the year 1635.

Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, his eldest son, was born in the year 1680. He married Jerusha Minot of Boston, and had several children. He acquired his professional education under the instruction of his father, and Dr. John Cutter, an eminent physician and surgeon of Boston; and commenced the practice of physic in that town under very

favorable circumstances in the early part of the last century. In a few years he arrived at great distinction in his profession and accumulated a handsome fortune. He was remarkable for his skill, his humanity, and close attention to his patients. He had been led under the direction of his father to the study of Botany and Natural History, which he so successfully cultivated as soon to establish a correspondence with several learned societies and eminent individuals in England, particularly with Sir Hans Sloane, president of the Royal Society, and one of the most celebrated naturalists of his time. In order to illustrate the subjects on which he wrote, Dr. Boylston spared no labor nor expense in obtaining rare plants, animals and insects, a great variety of which, then unknown in Europe, he at different times transmitted to England. Indeed such were his ardor, industry and research in these pursuits, that he acquired no inconsiderable degree of distinction as a naturalist.

In the year 1721 the smallpox appeared in Boston, and pursued its usual desolating career, carrying with it the utmost terror and confusion. On this alarming occasion Dr. Cotton Mather, the learned and distinguished divine, communicated to Dr. Boylston a publication in the Transactions of the Royal Society, announcing the discovery of a new method of mitigating the virulence of this fatal disease. This intelligence was from Drs. Timoni and Pilarini,\* being a concise account of the process of inoculation, as then practised in Turkey by scarifying the skin and applying the matter under a nut shell, but giving no other directions concerning the practice or mode of treatment. Dr. Boylston was forcibly impressed with the benefit of the discovery, and accordingly, after deliberating on the most safe and expeditious mode of thus artificially introducing the disease into the system, he communicated to the medical gentlemen in Boston the plan he proposed to adopt, and the source whence he derived the first hints of the operation, desiring their concurrence in the under-

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\* Dr. Emanuel Timoni Alspeek, who was graduated both at Padua and at Oxford, was residing in Constantinople in the year 1703, and was then struck with the instances which he witnessed of the mitigated nature of the smallpox, when the virus was artificially communicated to the human frame. He wrote an account of his observations to Dr. Woodward, by whom it was inserted in the Philosophical Transactions of the year 1714. Pilarini was a Venetian physician, and published in 1715 at Venice a statement of the success of the Turkish practice.

taking. But Dr. William Douglass, a Scotch physician of some eminence, who had seen the publication in Dr. Mather's possession, and Dr. Dalhonde, a French physician, also of some repute in Boston, united in a violent opposition to the plan, and publicly denounced it as introductory of the plague, which had so often visited and nearly depopulated many cities in Europe and Asia ; and declared that the attempt to put it into practice would be no less criminal than murder. The other physicians in Boston not only refused their co-operation in so novel and bold an experiment, but condemned it in their writings, and opposed it in every shape. Dr. Boylston, however, was a man of benevolence and courage, and finding before him a promising opportunity for diminishing the evils of human life, he was not afraid to struggle with prejudice, nor unwilling to encounter abuse in the noble cause. The clergy in general were disposed to aid the project, but a few of the less liberal were instigated to preach against it, and such was their influence, added to that of Douglass and Dalhonde, that the inhabitants became enraged, and were excited to commit atrocious acts of outrage on the person of Dr. Boylston. They patrolled the town in parties with halters, threatening to hang him on the nearest tree. The only place of refuge left him at one time was a private place in his house, where he remained secreted fourteen days, unknown to any of his family but his wife. During this time parties entered his house, by day and by night, in search of him. Nor was this all ; their rancor extended to his family ; for one evening, while his wife and children were sitting in the parlor, a lighted hand grenade was thrown into the room, but the fusee striking against some of the furniture fell off before an explosion could take place, and thus providentially their lives were saved. Even after the madness of the multitude had in some measure subsided, Dr. Boylston ventured to visit his patients only at midnight and in disguise.

Undismayed, however, by all this violence, and unsupported by the friendship of any but Dr. Mather, he commenced on the 27th of June 1721, while the smallpox was in its most destructive progress through the town, this untried experiment of inoculation on his own son, a child of thirteen years of age, and two blacks in his family, one of thirty-six and the other of two years of age ; and on all with complete success.

This rekindled the fury of the populace, and induced the authorities of the town to summon him before them to answer for his practice. He underwent repeated examinations, and although he invited all the practitioners in Boston to visit his patients and judge for themselves, he received only insults and threats in reply. These facts we have thought worthy of notice, as remarkable in themselves, and as in some degree characteristic of the excitable spirit of the times. In thus encountering obloquy and reproach, however, Dr. Boylston but experienced the fortune of most of those who have attempted to innovate on long established usages, or to take the lead in the career of public improvement. The smallpox ceased its ravages in May 1722, and during its prevalence Dr. B. continued the practice of inoculation to all who could be induced to submit to it. He inoculated, with his own hand, two hundred and forty-seven of both sexes, from nine months to sixty-seven years of age, in Boston and in the neighboring towns; thirty-nine were inoculated by other physicians after the tumult had in some measure subsided, making in the whole two hundred and eighty-six; of whom only six died, and of these, three were supposed to have taken the disease in the natural way some days previous to their being inoculated; three of those who died, were his oldest patients. It appears by the account published by the selectmen, that during the same period five thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine had taken the natural smallpox, eight hundred and forty-four of whom fell victims to the disease, being more than one in six. In the vicinity of Boston it had been still more malignant and fatal. The utility of the practice was now established beyond dispute; and its success encouraged its more general practice in England, in which country it had been tried upon but a few persons, most of whom were condemned convicts and charity children. The daughter of Lady Mary W. Montague was inoculated in London in April 1721, being the first instance in Europe, and the convicts were made the subjects of the experiment in August of the same year.\* Dr. Boylston therefore is justly entitled to the honor of being the first inoculator in America, and this even before the single instance of the experiment in Europe had come to his knowledge.

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\* See page 20 and 44 of this volume.

In the prosecution of this good work, Dr. B. it has been shown, was obliged to meet not only the most virulent, but the most dangerous opposition. Dr. William Douglass, a Scotchman, violent in his prejudices and bitter and outrageous in his conduct, bent his whole force to annihilate the practice which had been introduced ; and Dr. Dalhonde was prevailed upon to make a singular deposition relative to the subject, which, however absurd, the selectmen had the effrontery to publish in support of their opposition. (This production may be seen in page 42 of this volume.) The newspapers of the day teemed with calumny and abuse of all the friends of inoculation, and numerous pamphlets were published with the design of prejudicing the public mind against the new practice. Douglass asserted that it was a crime, which came under the description of poisoning and spreading infection, which were made penal by the laws of England. Some of the pamphlets contained such language as this, "To spread abroad a mortal contagion, what is it but to cast abroad arrows and death ? If a man should wilfully throw a bomb into a town, burn a house, or kill a man, ought he not to die ? I do not see how we can be excused from great impiety herein, when ministers and people, with loud and strong cries, made supplications to Almighty God to avert the judgment of the smallpox, and at the same time some have been carrying about instruments of inoculation, and bottles of the poisonous humor, to infect all who were willing to submit to it, whereby we might as naturally expect the infection to spread, as a man to break his bones by casting himself headlong from the highest pinnacle. Can any man infect a family in town in the morning, and pray to God in the evening that the distemper may not spread ?" It was contended that, as the smallpox was a judgment from God for the sins of the people, to endeavor to avert the stroke, would but provoke him the more ; that inoculation was an encroachment upon the prerogatives of Jehovah, whose right it is to wound and to smite ; and that as there was an appointed time to man upon earth, it would be useless to attempt to stay the approach of death.

Dr. B. during his unjust persecution held a correspondence with Sir Hans Sloane of London, the court physician, who being apprized of his very eminent services in first introducing inoculation into America, honored

him with an invitation to visit London.\* He accordingly embarked for that city, and on his arrival was greeted with the most cordial affection and respect. He was elected a member of the Royal Society, the first American, we believe, ever admitted to that honor. He was, moreover, honored by being introduced to the Royal family, and received the most flattering attentions and friendship of some of the most distinguished characters of the nation. The same spirit of calumny and misrepresentation, which he had experienced in his native land, it is said pursued Dr. B. in England. He and his practice were violently denounced, and Dr. Wagstaffe and others cautioned the public against him. He continued, notwithstanding, during his residence of a year and a half, to enjoy the respect and friendship of the wise and good in England, and was repeatedly solicited to settle there ; but his preference of his native land induced him to forego all the advantages which might result from such a determination. Before leaving England, however, he published at the request of the Royal Society, an account of his practice of inoculation in America, which he dedicated to the Princess Caroline. This was in 1726, and it was republished in Boston in the following year. A copy of this edition elegantly bound, has been deposited in the medical library of Harvard University by Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq. Dr. Woodville in his History of Inoculation, observes that Dr. Boylston had the discernment to discover that the smallpox, as usually received, is much longer in taking effect than when communicated by inoculation ; and that the latter precedes the former by four or five days : a discovery, of which a more modern inoculator has taken the credit.

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\* These memoirs are composed chiefly from documents furnished by Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq. a descendant of Dr. Boylston. This gentleman asserts that the letter of invitation was addressed to Dr. Boylston by order of the king, with the intention that he should inoculate the Royal Family, and that he did actually perform that operation first upon Princess Caroline, and subsequently upon other members of the Royal Family, and that the king compensated his services by a purse of one thousand guineas. But this statement is opposed by the history of inoculation by Drs. Woodville and Moor, two English physicians, who have detailed an account of inoculation of the Royal Family, performed by his majesty's serjeant surgeon Amyand in 1722, and others in 1723. (See page 44 of this volume.) It would appear by the family tradition and documents that Dr. Boylston visited London in 1723, and it is clear that he published his book in London and dedicated it to Princess Caroline in 1726. Whether he did or did not inoculate the Royal Family, his merit and highly important services would naturally claim for him the royal bounty, and it is certain that he returned home with ample funds to enable him to retire from professional business.



After his return to his native country, Dr. B. continued at the head of his profession, and engaged in literary pursuits, making many ingenious and useful communications to the Royal Society, and corresponding with his numerous friends, among whom he used to mention with great respect and affection the Rev. Dr. Watts, who appears by his letters to have been a warm advocate for inoculation. After a long period of eminence in his profession, his age and infirmities called for retirement ; and being essentially aided in his pecuniary concerns by his visit to London, he was enabled to relinquish his professional avocations and retire with his family to his paternal seat at Brookline, where he passed the residue of his days in independence and comfort. He had the pleasure of seeing inoculation universally practised, and his efforts crowned with the attainment of a noble object, which has been received as an invaluable acquisition to the science of medicine. Having retired from professional labors, Dr. B. devoted himself to the cultivation of his farm, and the pursuit of his favorite studies. Among his agricultural occupations was the improvement of the breed of domestic animals, particularly of horses, for which his farm was celebrated. Nor was he content with merely breeding fine animals, but being an excellent horseman, he broke them for the carriage and saddle. This practice he followed almost to the last days of his life. He has been seen in Boston at the age of eighty-four, riding a colt he was breaking.

Dr. B. possessed a strong and reflecting mind, and acute discernment. His character through life was one of unimpeached integrity. He was charitable in his opinions of others, patient under the severest persecution, and forgiving of his bitterest enemies. When his family were alarmed for his safety, he expressed to them his resignation to the will of Heaven, and at the close of his useful life, he was consoled with the reflection, that the spirit of malevolence, so hostile to his merit and fame, became attempered to the grateful duty of enhancing and perpetuating the honor so justly due to his character. He was not disposed to dogmatize on any subject, but communicated his extensive knowledge in the most free manner. These qualities, added to the natural ease and suavity of his manners, which had been improved by intercourse with the world, caused his society to be much sought, and to his family and his friends rendered him a most interesting and instructive

companion. His health was often interrupted by severe attacks of asthma, to which he was subject for the last forty years of his life. He met death with calmness and perfect resignation in the eighty-seventh year of his age, saying to his friends, "My work in this world is done, and my hopes of futurity are brightening." He was buried in the family tomb at Brookline, on which is inscribed the following appropriate and just language. "Sacred to the memory of Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, Esq. physician and F.R.S. who first introduced the practice of inoculation into America. Through a life of extensive benevolence, he was always faithful to his word, just in his dealings, affable in his manners, and after a long sickness, in which he was exemplary for his patience and resignation to his Maker, he quitted this mortal life, in a just expectation of a happy immortality, March 1st, 1766." His wife died a few years before him.

BRACKETT, JOSHUA, M.D. M.M.S.S. Hon. The subject of these memoirs was born at Greenland, in the vicinity of Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, in May, 1733. Having gone through the preparatory studies under the tuition of the Rev. Henry Rust, at Stratham, he became an alumnus of Harvard College in 1748, the usual honors of which he received in 1752 and 1755. His collegiate course being finished, he attended to various publications on the science of theology. In contemplating this for a profession, he consulted the pleasure of his parents, more than his own inclination. However, he proceeded in his studies, was licensed and became a preacher; but the state of his health soon became such, as obliged him to determine on some other pursuit. He then devoted himself to the study of a profession, which was ever more congenial to his turn of mind, and in which Providence had designed him for eminence. He devoted his time diligently to the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Clement Jackson of Portsmouth, where he continued a practitioner until his death.

On the 30th of October, 1783, he was chosen an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was one of the nineteen who first formed a similar institution in the state of New-Hampshire, for which an act of incorporation was obtained in 1791. In 1792 he was presented by his alma mater with a medical doctorate. On the 19th of June, 1793, he succeeded the late Dr.

Bartlett in the presidency of the New-Hampshire Medical Society, and by repeated elections continued in this office till the 15th of May, 1799, when in consequence of his declining state of health he resigned it. He had previously presented the institution with one hundred and forty-three volumes of valuable books, as a foundation of a medical library. On retiring from the presidency, he received an address, which handsomely expressed the respectful acknowledgment of this society for his diligent and friendly attention to its interests, and for his liberal donation. Dr. Brackett had interested himself in the subject of a professorship for Natural History and Botany, at the University in Cambridge. He told the writer of these memoirs, not many weeks before his death, that it was a subject which had much engrossed his mind for thirty years. It afforded him no small satisfaction that, before his decease, a plan had been adopted for carrying so useful an establishment into effect, and that donations for the purpose, to the amount of several thousand dollars, had been subscribed. He left the request with his consort, that a certain property of the value of fifteen hundred dollars, when she should have done with it, might be conveyed to the corporation of Harvard College for the before suggested design. Mrs. Brackett, after his decease, said she should "hold his every wish on the subject sacred as a word from Heaven." She accordingly conveyed the property, with a generous additional sum, a bequest of her own, to the corporation of the college, the benefits of which are now experienced in the beautiful establishment at Cambridge.

Dr. Brackett was much distinguished for his activity and zeal in the cause of American independence. He was one of the committee of safety during the revolutionary war. At an early period of it, he was appointed judge of the maritime court in New-Hampshire, and sustained that office with reputation. His profession, however, in which he was eminent, was his peculiar delight, as the natural bias of his soul led him to the relief of those wants and distresses, which it continually presented to his view. To increase his knowledge and usefulness in it, his reading, which was uncommonly extensive, his observations, which were accurate, and his reflections, which were judicious, were principally directed. He was extremely attentive to his patients, and spared no pains to investigate the cause

and the nature of their maladies, and to afford relief. *Artis obstetricæ valde peritus fuit, quippe quo curante nunquam fœmina parturiens morti succubuit.* While a happy general success attended his professional ministrations, his tenderness and sympathy with the sons and daughters of disease and distress, were striking traits in his character, and greatly endear his memory. Dr. Brackett occasionally made minutes of important cases which came under his care, and of the measures pursued ; but as these were merely for his own use, few of them have been found in a finished state. He also kept for twenty-five years before his death, a thermometrical and meteorological registry, which would be a valuable acquisition to the archives of any philosophical society. Although his religious tenets were different from those of the writer of his memoirs, he has no hesitancy in saying, that his moral deportment appeared to be founded on the principle recognized in the golden rule. He was mild in his temper, of an affable turn, amiable in his disposition, unassuming in his manners, and was sincerely beloved and highly respected in the social walks of life. He was a man of warm friendship, great benevolence, an enemy to flattery, and no one was ever less ambitious of popular applause. Humanity made a prominent appearance in the group of his excellences. It ought to be recorded that, in his professional labors, he was peculiarly kind to the poor, and never made a charge, where he had reason to think the payment would occasion the smallest embarrassment. This was a conduct which would not have been unworthy of the man of Ross.

For a considerable time before his death, he found that his constitution was under a gradual and general decay through a disease in the region of his heart, as to the nature of which he never could be satisfied. At length he determined to try the efficacy of the Saratoga waters, for which purpose he set out from Portsmouth on the 23d of June, 1802. Having arrived at the springs, he continued there but a few days, for he found that his disorder must bring him to the grave ; and, feeling a consciousness that the time of his departure was at hand, he hastened to return, that he might be among his friends before the closing scene. He reached home on Friday the 9th of July, visited several patients, and continued to walk out till the Tuesday following. From that time he was confined till his death, which took place on Saturday the 17th of July,

1802. On the ensuing Monday the remains of this philanthropist and physician were interred with great respect, and the tears of the widow and the orphan watered his grave. He was, in judgment, sound ; in friendship, firm ; in sentiments, liberal ; and in benevolence, unbounded.—  
*Medical Repository by Rev. T. A.*

In early life Dr. Brackett was married to Miss Hannah Whipple of Kittery, who was a most amiable, accomplished and dignified woman. Her mental endowments were inferior to none. Her education and acquirements surpassed those of her sex in the vicinity of her residence. Her favorite studies were Natural Philosophy, and more especially Botany. She had an excellent garden well stored with choice and rare shrubs, plants and fruits. In benevolence she was not exceeded by her husband, for it was by her will the New-Hampshire Medical Society realized a legacy of 500 dollars. She died May, 1805, aged 70 years. To perpetuate in the New-Hampshire Medical Society's Library the name of its founder, it was resolved by the Society, that the name of Brackett shall be marked in golden letters on the covers of all the books that were presented by him or purchased by Mrs. Brackett's legacy, in manner and form as under written.

## BRACKETT

## TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

BRADFORD, Hon. WILLIAM, was a son of Lieut. Samuel Bradford, and a descendant in the fourth generation from the Hon. William Bradford, the second governor of the Old Colony of Plymouth. His descent was in a direct line, through families of distinction ; many of the collateral branches of which are removed into various parts, and are respectable. He was born at Plympton in the County of Plymouth, on the 4th November (old style) 1729. His promising talents and early proficiency in literature, gave his friends fair hopes that he was destined to adorn a professional character ; advantages were, accordingly, afforded him for acquiring a good education. The natural bias of his mind led him to turn his attention to the medical art ; and he was regularly instructed under the tuition of Dr. Ezekiel Hersey of Hingham, a physician of eminence, and one of the generous benefactors of Harvard College.

At the age of 22 he left his instructor with sentiments of friendship and esteem, which were cherished to the end of

his life, and commenced the practice of physic in the town of Warren, State of Rhode Island. His affable and affectionate manner, united to his skill and success, soon gained him a liberal encouragement, which seldom falls to the share of so young a practitioner, however meritorious. He was particularly well qualified in the art of surgery, was considered as the principal operative surgeon in the vicinity where he resided and in an extended circle, performing difficult operations with great dexterity, skill and judgment. In April, 1751, he married Miss Mary LeBaron, daughter of Dr. Lazarus LeBaron of Plymouth. A union with an amiable partner, rendered his domestic life happy, as his public life was honorable and useful. After a few years he found it convenient to remove from Warren to Bristol, where he erected an elegant seat on that memorable and romantic spot, Mount Hope. Some time after his residence in this town, he entered upon the study and the practice of the law, not only from motives of indulging his own taste for juridical science, but to gratify that propensity to industry and usefulness, which animated him in all his pursuits. His great assiduity, correctness and candor in his office at the bar, procured him a rank among the first civilians of Rhode Island, and it may be justly said of him that very few ever arrived so near to superior eminence, in two professions which required so much attention necessary to a proper discharge of each.

He was a leading member of the committee of correspondence when our struggle with England commenced, and having taken a decided part in favor of the rights of the colonies, he was considered as a pillar in the cause of the revolution, and sustained a distinguished rank in the councils of New England in those trying times. During the cannonade of Bristol in the evening of October 7th 1775, by the Rose, Glasgow and Siren men of war, Governor Bradford went on board the Rose in behalf of the inhabitants, and treated with Captain Wallace for the cessation of the bombardment. His own house was among the ruins of this invasion, (See Providence Gazette, October 14th, 1775). In the year 1792 he was elected by the suffrages of his fellow citizens a Senator to Congress, where he was chosen President of that body pro tempore; but unambitious of public honors, and, like his friend the immortal Washington, fond of retirement from the busy world, he soon resigned his seat in that august body, for





JOHN BROOKS M.D.

*Pendletons Litho Boston*



the delightful shades of his favorite retreat at Mount Hope. He was frequently called to fill offices of great trust in his own state, as Deputy Governor, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, the duties of which office for many years he discharged with honor and fidelity. It may be said of him that, excepting a few years before his death, he was continually in the alternate discharge of the duties of public and private life. He, notwithstanding, acquired an independent fortune, not more from his characteristic habits of industry, than from the practice of economy ; in each of which he was an example worthy of imitation.

His conduct through life, was modelled on the standard of strict morality and the warmest philanthropy. His heart was ever open to the wants of the poor, and it was his practice, for many years, to deposit with the clergyman of the parish, a liberal sum to be distributed at the discretion of the minister among the worthy objects of charity. He was averse to ostentation and parade in attendance, although hospitable to a proverb, and he would often say that he wished not to survive his ability to wait upon himself. He was an early riser, walking over his extensive domains before the sun appeared ; temperate and moderate in his enjoyments, and uniformly retiring in the evening at an early hour ; he thus preserved health and activity to fourscore years. He was sociable in his disposition ; and his greatest solicitude was to make his family and friends happy, from whom he derived more than common satisfaction and enjoyment. By his liberal entertainment of associates and strangers, he cheered the solitary hours of a single life during 38 years previous to his decease, his wife having died October 2d 1775. His own departure took place in Bristol, Rhode Island, July 6th 1808. Bishop Griswold, then Rector of St. Michael's Church, delivered a sermon at his interment, from Genesis 49th chapter, 29th and 31st verses, which was printed. His eldest son, Major William Bradford, was aid to General Charles Lee of the revolutionary army.

BROOKS, JOHN, M.D. M.M.S.S. et LL.D. The Honorable John Brooks was born in Medford, Massachusetts, in the year 1752. His father, Captain Caleb Brooks, was a respectable, independent farmer, and the son spent his earliest years in the usual occupations of a farm. He received no education preparatory to his professional studies, but that of the town school ; at which, however, he

was able to acquire sufficient of the learned languages to qualify him for the profession of medicine. At the age of fourteen he was placed under the tuition of Dr. Simon Tufts of Medford, by a written indenture as an apprentice for seven years ; this being the usual custom of that day. No master was ever more faithful to his charge, and the pupil by his amiable deportment and excellent conduct abundantly repaid his master's care. At this school the celebrated Count Rumford was his companion and friend, and their intimacy was continued by correspondence until the death of the Count. The skill and science of the instructor and the indefatigable attention of the pupil, supplied the deficiencies arising from the want of a liberal education. His progress in medical science and in judicious practical observation, was such as to secure the confidence and respect of his master during his pupilage ; the amiable traits of his character were more fully developed, and he began to manifest that talent and fondness for military discipline which were eminently displayed at a subsequent period, and contributed to establish that erect and manly port for which he was so remarkably distinguished. In the hours of relaxation from study he amused himself with the drill and exercise of the soldier. His manners were so gentle and attractive, that he was the delight of all the village boys : they collected about him as the chief source of their pleasures and amusements ; he formed them into companies, and trained and exercised them in all the duties of military discipline. Dr. Tufts's yard was often converted into a trainfield, and displayed in miniature all "the pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war."

Having finished his studies, he chose the neighboring town of Reading as his residence, and commenced his practice there. But by this time the storm of the revolutionary war was gathering, and, as its distant thunders rolled towards our shores, the hearts of the gallant youth of our country responded to the sound, and preparations for the field superseded the minor concerns of life. A company of minute men was raised in the town, and young Brooks was chosen its commander. He was indefatigable in drilling and disciplining them, having first gained some knowledge himself by observing the military trainings of the British soldiers in Boston. He was soon called upon for actual service. On the news of the expedition of the British to Lexington and Concord, he instantly marched

with such of his company as were prepared, and ordered the rest to follow. They were delayed on the road by the orders of a higher officer ; but Brooks, then about twenty-two years of age, and the brave young men of his company, pushed on towards Concord, and as they drew near to the town they met the whole British force returning. He immediately ordered his corps to place themselves behind the barns and fences, and fire continually on the British. They did great execution, and contributed much to produce that panic with which the proud, but humbled, troops retreated to their quarters in Boston.

The military talents and calm courage which he displayed on this occasion, were remarkable in a young man only twenty-two years of age, who had never seen a battle. They were noticed by those who had the direction of public affairs, and he soon after received the commission of Major in the continental army. He now entered on the duties of a soldier with ardor, and devoted all the powers of his mind to the cause of his country and the profession of arms. He carried into the service a mind pure and elevated, and ardent in the pursuit of knowledge. He had a high sense of moral rectitude, which governed all his actions. Licentiousness and debauchery were strangers to his breast ; they fled from his presence, awed by his superior virtue. His gentlemanly deportment and unassuming manners secured the favor of his superiors in office, and rendered him the delight of his equals and inferiors. When our troops were preparing to fortify Bunker's Hill, Major Brooks volunteered his services, and was active during the whole night of the 16th of June in throwing up intrenchments, in reconnoitring the ground, and in watching the movements of the enemy. On the morning of the 17th, when it was perceived that the enemy were making preparations for an assault, he was despatched by Colonel Prescott as a confidential officer to inform General Ward, then at Cambridge, of the movements, and to press him to send on reinforcements. Not a horse could be procured for this service, and he went on foot. This duty prevented his being engaged in that glorious battle, which has immortalized the heroes who were engaged in it, and consecrated the ground to everlasting fame.

Major Brooks had already acquired such knowledge of tactics that he had been consulted by superior officers on a system of discipline to be introduced into our army. He

now applied himself with renewed diligence to this important part of his duty, and soon acquired a high reputation as a disciplinarian. The corps he commanded were distinguished during the whole war for the superiority of their discipline, evinced by their gallant conduct in battle and by their regular movements in retreat. He was considered second only to the celebrated Baron Steuben, in his knowledge of tactics. After the Baron joined the army and was appointed Inspector General, we find that Brooks was associated with him in the arduous duty of introducing a uniform system of exercise and manœuvres. In the battle of White Plains the regiment to which he belonged was the last to quit the field, and it retired under his command with the steadiness of veteran soldiers, and received the distinguished acknowledgments of General Washington for its gallant conduct. In the year 1777 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the 8th Massachusetts Regiment, the command of which devolved on him in consequence of the sickness of the Colonel.

In August, 1777, Colonel Brooks was detached with a command under General Arnold against Colonel St. Leger, who with a body of Canadians, Indians and tories had besieged our fort on the Mohawk river. Advancing toward the enemy he captured Major Butler, and found within our lines one Cuyler, a proprietor of a handsome estate in the vicinity, who, having been much with the enemy, was taken up as a spy. Colonel Brooks proposed that he should be employed as a messenger to spread the alarm and induce the enemy to retreat from before our fort. General Arnold soon after arrived and approved of the scheme; it was accordingly agreed that Cuyler should be liberated, and his estate secured to him, on the condition that he would return to the enemy and make such exaggerated report of General Arnold's force as to alarm and put them to flight. This stratagem was successful, the Indians instantly determined to quit their ground and make their escape, nor was it in the power of St. Leger and his officers, with all their arts of persuasion, to prevent it. The capture of General Burgoyne and his army may be attributed in no small degree to the gallant conduct of Colonel Brooks and his regiment, on the 7th of October, in the battle of Saratoga. With fearless intrepidity he led on his regiment, turning the right of the enemy, stormed their entrenchments, entering them at the head of his men with

sword in hand, and put to rout the veteran German troops which defended them. It was on this occasion that he wrote to a friend :—" We have met the British and Hessians and have beat them ; and not content with this victory, we have assaulted their intrenchments and carried them." In the battle at Monmouth he was acting Adjutant General, and on this as on all occasions conducted with great coolness and bravery.

The confidence which Washington reposed in him was shown on many occasions, and particularly in calling him to his councils in that terrible moment when at Newburgh, in March, 1783, a conspiracy of some of the officers, excited by the publication of inflammatory anonymous letters, had well nigh disgraced the army and ruined the country. On this occasion the commander in chief, to whom this was the most anxious moment of his life, rode up to Brooks with intent to ascertain how the officers stood affected. Finding him, as he expected, to be sound, he requested him to keep his officers within quarters to prevent them from attending the insurgent meeting ; Brooks replied, " Sir, I have anticipated your wishes, and my orders are given." Washington, with tears in his eyes, took him by the hand and said, " Colonel Brooks, this is just what I expected from you." Colonel Brooks was one of the committee who brought in the resolutions of the officers expressing their abhorrence of this vile plot. So strongly were his brother officers impressed with his wisdom and prudence, that they appointed him one of their committee to make an adjustment of their accounts with Congress. Washington did not forget him after the war was over, but afterward when an army was raised in expectation of a war with France, he designated him for the command of a brigade. Believing, however, that the dangers of the country were not so imminent as to require a second sacrifice of domestic comfort, he declined the appointment.

The following pages are copied from Dr. Dixwell's memoir of Governor Brooks.

"After the army was disbanded Colonel Brooks returned to private life, rich in the laurels he had won, in the affections of his fellow soldiers and in the esteem of the wise and good. He was not only free from the vices incident to a military life, but, what was remarkable, he had acquired more elevated sentiments of morality and religion.

He was received in his native town with all the kindness, the congratulations and attentions which love and friendship could elicit, or respect inspire. He was rich in honor and glory, but he had nothing to meet the claims of his beloved family, but the caresses of an affectionate heart.

"His old friend Dr. Tufts being infirm and advanced in life, was desirous of relinquishing his practice into the hands of his favorite pupil, whom he thought so worthy of confidence. His fellow townsmen responded to the wishes of his patron. He accordingly recommenced the practice of physic, under the most favorable auspices, in Medford and the neighboring towns. He was soon after elected a fellow of this society, and was one of its most valuable and respected members.\* On the extension and new organization of the society, in the year 1803, he was elected a counsellor, and continued to discharge the duties of this office with fidelity until he was Governor of the Commonwealth. He was then discontinued at his own request. In the year 1808, by the appointment of the board of counsellors, he delivered an anniversary discourse on Pneumonia, which has been published, and evinces a mind well stored with medical science and correct practical observation.

"On his retiring from the chair of state, he was again chosen a counsellor, with the view of electing him President of our society. It is unnecessary for me to expatiate on the pride and satisfaction we derived from his accepting this honor. Your own feelings will best convey to you the height of the honor which he reflected on our society. That he felt a deep interest in our prosperity, we have ample evidence in his so kindly remembering us in his will.†

"As a physician he ranked in the first class of practitioners. He possessed in an eminent degree those qualities which were calculated to render him the most useful in his professional labors, and the delight of those to whom he administered relief. His manners were dignified, courteous and benign. He was kind, patient and attentive. His kind offices were peculiarly acceptable from the felicitous manner in which he performed them. His mind was well furnished with scientific and practical knowledge.

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\* Massachusetts Medical Society.

† Governor Brooks bequeathed to the Massachusetts Medical Society the whole of his medical library, which contains many valuable works.

He was accurate in his investigations, and clear in his discernment. He, therefore, rarely failed in forming a true diagnosis. If he were not so bold and daring as some, in the administration of remedies, it was because his judgment and good sense led him to prefer erring on the side of prudence rather than on that of rashness. He watched the operations of nature, and never interfered, unless it was obvious he could aid and support her. He was truly, the "Hierophant of nature," studying her mysteries and obeying her oracles.

"In his practice, he added dignity to his profession by his elevated and upright conduct. His lofty spirit could not stoop to the empirical arts which are too often adopted to obtain a temporary ascendancy. He soared above the sordid consideration of the property he should accumulate by his professional labors. Like the good and great Boerhaave, he considered the poor his best patients, for God was their paymaster. In short, he was the conscientious, the skilful and the benevolent physician—the grace and ornament of our profession.

"His mind, however, was not so exclusively devoted to his professional duties, as to prevent his taking a deep interest in the affairs of state. He had contributed so largely towards establishing the independence of his country, and had exhibited such sincere devotion to its welfare, that his countrymen, who have ever been distinguished for the acuteness of their discernment in judging of public men and measures, were always ready to display their confidence in him. They felt an assurance that they might safely repose on his conscientious integrity, wisdom and patriotism. He was consequently called to fill numerous offices of high importance in the state.

"He was for many years major-general of the militia of his county, and established in his division such excellent discipline, and infused into it such an admirable spirit of emulation, that it was a most brilliant example for the militia of the state. In the insurrection of 1786, his division was very efficient in their protection of the courts of justice, and in their support of the government of the state. At this time Gen. Brooks represented his town in general court, and he gave support to the firm and judicious measures of Gov. Bowdoin for suppressing that alarming rebellion. He was a delegate in the state convention for the adoption of the federal constitution, and was

one of its most zealous advocates. After the establishment of the federal government, he was the second marshal appointed by Washington for this district, and afterwards received further evidence of his confidence and approbation, by being appointed inspector of the revenue.\* He was successively elected to the senate and executive council of the state. He was appointed by the acute and discriminating Gov. Strong, as his adjutant-general, in that perilous crisis of our affairs, the late war with England. The prudence and discretion with which he discharged this arduous duty, will be long remembered by his grateful countrymen.

"These multifarious and laborious public services were performed with so much punctuality and ability, and with such dignity and urbanity, that on the retirement of Gov. Strong in the year 1816, wise and discreet legislators from all parts of the commonwealth, selected him as the most suitable candidate for that high and responsible office. It will be recollected, how forcibly every judicious mind was impressed with the excellence of the selection, and how strongly the public suffrages confirmed that opinion. His very name seemed to disarm party spirit with talismanic power; for many, who had never acted with his political friends, prided themselves in testifying their unlimited confidence in him.

"It is fresh in your memories, with what trembling apprehensions he shrunk from the lofty altitude of the chair of state, and yet when placed there, with what singular ease and dignity he presided, and with what signal ability he discharged its various important duties. His government was firm and decided, yet it was so mild and gentle, that its influence was chiefly perceptible in his happy facility of allaying party spirit and all the angry passions of our nature. It was like that of a beloved and revered parent, whom all are disposed to honor and obey.

"Amidst these high military and political honors which his fellow citizens took delight in bestowing on him, almost every institution of a literary, religious, patriotic, be-

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\* When President Washington visited Massachusetts in the year 1789, he appeared solicitous to show Gen. Brooks that he held his character in high estimation, and cherished a strong personal regard for him. Among other attentions he reviewed his division of the militia, and expressed the highest approbation of its discipline, and when he was about to depart for Salem he requested to take Gen. Brooks's house in his course, although a deviation from his route, that he might take leave of his friend and compatriot in arms.



nevolent or professional character, seemed to vie with each other in conferring their highest honors on him. Harvard University acknowledged the value of his literary acquirements, by conferring on him the degree of A. M., in the year 1787, and in 1816 he received the highest honors of that seminary, the degrees of M.D. and LL.D.

"The society of Cincinnati recognised him as one of their most distinguished members. He was elected to deliver the first oration before them on the 4th of July, 1787; and on the death of Gen. Lincoln, their first president, Gen. Brooks was elected to succeed him.

"He was a member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was President of the Washington Monument Association, of the Bunker Hill Monument Association, and of the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

"Having faithfully and ably discharged the duties of chief magistrate for seven successive years, he expressed his determination to retire from the cares and anxieties of public life. How great were the public regrets, and how gladly would a large majority of his fellow citizens have retained his valuable services; but they forebore urging him to any further sacrifices for the good of his country. He retired to private life with dignity, and with the love and blessings of a grateful people.

"Having imperfectly traced the brilliant path of his public career, let us for a moment contemplate Gov. Brooks in his private character; and perhaps we may discover the true source of all his greatness, the charm which bound the hearts of his countrymen to him in ties so strong. He possessed a heart free from all guile, and every inordinate selfish feeling—an evenness of temper and sweetness of disposition. His discordant passions, for we presume he had them, being human, were kept in complete subjection to his virtues. He had a peculiar composure and complacency of countenance; and the delicacy and courteousness of his manners were uncommonly attractive. But above all, his conduct was regulated by the influence of that pure morality, derived from our holy religion, which was impressed deeply on his mind at an early period of life.

"The mind of Gov. Brooks was clear in its perceptions, and discriminating in its judgment; it was active, ardent and industrious in the pursuit of every valuable attainment, and powerful in the application of those attainments

for the benefit of others. Although his mind shrunk from observation, with the delicate excitability of the sensitive plant, it was like the oak in sustaining the pressure of every duty to his friends or his country.

"In his relation to his native town, he completely reversed the maxim, that a prophet has no honor in his own country, for the inhabitants of Medford idolized him. They knew his worth, and fully appreciated it. He was truly their friend and benefactor. He took so deep an interest in all their concerns, let their station in life be ever so humble, that they could always approach him with ease and confidence. They referred to him all their disputes, and so judicious were his decisions, that he had the rare felicity to satisfy all parties, and to reconcile them to bonds of amity. It was observed by an eminent lawyer, who resided there, that he had no professional business in Medford, for Gov. Brooks prevented all contentions in the law. In addition to these intrinsic services, he was the grace and the ornament of their social circles, and seemed to fill up the measure of all their enjoyments.

"But what avail these noble talents, these splendid achievements or these godlike virtues! The grim messenger of death has swept them from our reach. Our beloved and revered friend, in whom they were so eminently displayed, now lies a cold and inanimate clod of the valley, 'and the places which knew him, shall know him no more for ever.' 'But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory!' his spirit has risen to Him who gave it, and his virtues shall remain engraven on our hearts."

His death took place March 1st, 1825, in the 73d year of his age. His wife died early in life. He had one daughter, who married the Rev. George Oakley Stewart of Quebec, where she resided until her decease. His sons were Alexander Scammel and John, both of whom devoted themselves to the service of their country. The former is a major in the artillery of the United States army, and inherits his paternal estate. The latter, beautiful and accomplished, was a lieutenant in the navy, and died in the midst of victory, heroically fighting for his country, in the glorious battle of Lake Erie.

At a meeting of the counsellors of the Massachusetts Medical Society, March 2d, 1825, it was "*Resolved*, that the counsellors regard with deep sensibility the loss by death of the late president of the society, and that they feel as-

sured that they shall express the sentiments of the society as they do their own, in stating that the society has derived honor from having had as their head a man beloved in private life, justly respected in his profession, and distinguished in his state and country, for the faithful and honorable performance of high military and civil duties." A large number of the members of the society attended the funeral solemnities in conjunction with the members of the Cincinnati and several other societies to which the deceased belonged, and a great concourse of our most distinguished citizens, who united with the afflicted relatives and connexions in testifying their respect for his memory.

BRUCE, ARCHIBALD, M.D. was born in the city of New-York, in February, 1777. His father, William Bruce, was at that time at the head of the medical department of the British army then stationed at New-York. He had early determined that his son Archibald should not be brought up to the medical profession; and enjoined such instruction upon his wife and friends to whom the charge of the boy was committed upon the occasion of his being ordered to the West India station. After his decease the same injunction was repeated by his uncle, then in Europe.

Young Archibald was first placed by his mother under the care of William Almon, M.D. of Halifax, a particular friend of her husband. Here, however, he remained but a short time, and returning to New-York was taken to a school on Long-Island, under the direction of the late Professor Wilson, L.L.D. a distinguished teacher of the dead languages.

He was admitted as a student of the Arts in Columbia College in 1791, and duly graduated A.B. Nicholas Romayne, M.D. was about this time engaged in delivering lectures on several branches of medical learning, and the instruction of this eminent teacher was the first advance young Bruce made in a knowledge of physic. This he commenced notwithstanding the prohibition of his friends, and even while engaged in the school of arts. He afterward became a private pupil of Dr. Hosack, and attended the several courses of instruction delivered by the Medical Faculty of Columbia College. In 1793 he repaired to Europe, and in 1800 obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the University of Edinburgh, after having defended his inaugural exercise, "*De Variola Vaccina.*"

He was now amply prepared to make an advantageous visit to the Continent, and enlarge the stock of medical and physical science which he had already accumulated both in his own country and at the famous Scotch school of medicine. If there was any one particular branch of natural study which was more peculiarly attractive to him, it was mineralogy; and his subsequent success in this department is to be accounted for from the admirable and peculiar opportunities he possessed in New-York while under the care of his medical preceptor, Dr. Hosack. Dr. H. had but a short time previous to this period returned from Europe with a cabinet of minerals, the first one introduced into the American States, and it was arranged by the conjoint assistance of young Bruce. This exercise first awakened his attention to this branch of study, and laid the foundation of that reputation which was afterward so readily awarded him.

During a tour of two years in France, Switzerland and Italy, Dr. Bruce collected a mineralogical cabinet of great value and extent. Upon his return to England he married in London, and came out to New-York in the summer of 1803, to enter upon the duties of a practitioner of medicine.

In 1806 was passed the act establishing the state and county medical societies, one of the most important measures ever adopted by the legislature of New-York; and in the following year was organized the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the University of New-York by the honorable the Board of Regents. In this new institution Dr. Bruce was appointed Professor of *Materia Medica* and Mineralogy, and continued to give public instruction on those branches to the students of the university until the reorganization of the college in 1811, when the presidency of that establishment was placed under the authority of the venerable Samuel Bard, and his own professorship of *Materia Medica* transferred to Benjamin DeWitt, M.D. and the office of Registrar to John W. Francis. The chair of mineralogy was subsequently filled by Professor DeWitt, who upon the demise of Dr. Bruce became the proprietor of his valuable cabinet of minerals. These and other changes in the college were the result of the deliberations of the regents, who assigned as a reason for their adoption, that intestine feuds had greatly marred the progress of the institution, and that these as well as other measures had be-

come necessary in order to enable the college to go on in the march of effective improvement.

Dr. Bruce, in connexion with his friend Romaine and several other gentlemen, afterward constituted another medical faculty, and he delivered lectures on his favorite studies, mineralogy and materia medica, for some short while, when the institution was dissolved.

In 1810 he commenced the editorship of a *Journal of American Mineralogy*, after the manner of the well known work issued by the School of Mines at Paris. It met with becoming success, and had many valuable contributors to its pages; but owing to various causes was never carried beyond the completion of the first volume; a circumstance the less to be regretted by the friends of science, as the periodical work of Professor Silliman now started into existence. The mineralogical journal contributed materially to extend the fame of Dr. Bruce, as well as his discovery of the hydrate of magnesia, at Hoboken. He was enrolled as a member of the American Philosophical Society, of the Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York, besides other institutions in his own country and learned associations in Europe. Among his distinguished correspondents abroad, it is sufficient to mention Haüy and Jameson.

After repeated attacks of severe indisposition Dr. Bruce died in his native city, of an apoplexy, on the 22d of February, 1818, in the forty-first year of his age. About the same time his wife also died, leaving no issue.—*See Silliman's Journal, Vols. I. and IV.*

BULFINCH, THOMAS, M.D. was the son of Adino Bulfinch, who came to this country from England about the year 1680. He was actively engaged in commercial pursuits in Boston, and was chosen by that town Surveyor of Highways in 1700. His son, the subject of this memoir, was born in 1694. He did not receive a college education, but obtained the rudiments of medical instruction under Dr. Zabdiel Boylston. Letters from him still extant show that he studied anatomy and surgery in London under the famous Cheselden in 1718, and afterwards completed his medical studies at Paris in 1721. Dr. Boylston wished him to join him in partnership, which he declined, as at the time of the invitation he had not completed his regular course of lectures. On his return to Boston he married the daughter of John Colman, a distinguished merchant, brother of Dr. Benjamin Colman, first pastor

of Brattle Street Church. The following obituary notice is from the pen of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Cooper, who married his only daughter.

*Boston, December 8th 1757.* Last Friday morning, died, universally lamented, Dr. Thomas Bulfinch in the 63d year of his age. He was a gentleman whose knowledge, fidelity and success in his business rendered him an ornament to his profession ; as the easiness and composure of his behavior, and the agreeableness of his manners, made him amiable in familiar life. He was a tender husband, an affectionate father, a just and kind master, and a constant, unshaken friend. His piety was sober and unaffected, his temper humane and benevolent, his heart felt for the distresses of others, and his hands were ever ready to relieve them. He was a lover of English liberty, of good order, and good government ; and in his family a pattern of economy and hospitality : so that the public have reason to regret his loss, not only as an excellent physician, but as a good citizen whose example was beneficial to the community.

BULFINCH, THOMAS, M.D. the only son of the preceding, was born in Boston in 1728, and fitted for college in the Latin school under Mr. John Lovell ; he was distinguished for his classical attainments, and entered college in 1742 ; the class was small on account of the troubled state of the times occasioned by the efforts making by the Pretender of the house of Stuart for the recovery of the British crown. It consisted of only twelve members, of whom the venerable Dr. Holyoke of Salem survives. After leaving college he entered upon his studies with his father in 1753, and afterward passed four years in England and Scotland, attending the hospitals in London, and going through a regular course of instruction at Edinburgh, where he took his degree of M.D. in 1757. Being called home by the death of his father, he returned and commenced the practice of medicine at Boston. In September, 1759, he married Susan, the daughter of Charles Apthorp, Esq.

At the general spread of the smallpox in 1763, he was actively engaged in introducing the antiphlogistic mode of treatment in that disease, which was attended with extraordinary success ; and in conjunction with Drs. Joseph Warren, Gardiner and Perkins, attempted the establishment of a smallpox hospital at Point Shirley in Boston Harbor,

which was soon relinquished for want of encouragement, the prejudice being very strong against a voluntary and, as it was then called, a presumptuous exposure to disease. Dr. Bulfinch lived in the stormy period which led to the revolutionary war ; he was in feeling and principle a decided friend to the rights of the colonies, but remained with his family in Boston while the place was occupied by the British troops in 1775. He was subjected not only to the privations common to the inhabitants, but to the loss of a large quantity of medicine forcibly taken by order of the British general for the use of the troops, without any acknowledgment or remuneration. He had, however, the pleasure of seeing the enemy abandon our shores in March, 1776, and the town immediately occupied by the patriot army of his fellow countrymen. After this time he enjoyed an extensive practice, and numbered among his friends Governors Hancock and Bowdoin.

The character of Dr. Bulfinch was of the same mild and unobtrusive kind as that of his father ; he was possessed of the same cheerfulness and goodness of heart, and sincere and unpretending piety. Contented with the love and esteem of his numerous acquaintance, and especially of all who came under his professional care, he avoided every occasion of public display ; and when on the formation of the Massachusetts Medical Society he was invited to take a leading part in that institution, he declined it upon the plea that such undertakings should of right devolve on the younger members of the profession. He published only two small treatises, one on the treatment of scarlet fever, in the cure of which he was remarkably successful ; and the other on the yellow fever, a subject then but little understood, and which seemed to baffle at the time all the efforts of medical practitioners. Of an active, healthy frame, and distinguished for an uncommon attraction of person and elegance of manners, he continued in practice until two years previous to his death, which took place in February, 1802. He left one son, who is the ingenious architect and superintendent of the public buildings at the city of Washington, and two daughters ; all of whom were married during the life of the father, the son to Hannah, the daughter of John Apthorp, Esq., his elder daughter to George Storer and the younger to Joseph Coolidge, son of Joseph Coolidge, Esq.

**BULL, WILLIAM, M.D.** was the son of the Hon. William Bull, Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina in 1738. He was the first white person born in South Carolina, and is supposed to be the first American who obtained a degree in medicine. He was a pupil of the great Boerhaave, and distinguished for his knowledge of medicine and literature. In 1734 he defended and published at the University of Leyden, his inaugural thesis "*de Colica Pictonum*;" and he is quoted by Van Swieten as his fellow student in very respectful terms, as the learned Dr. Bull. After returning from Europe to his native State, he was elected successively a member of the Council, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and in 1764 Lieutenant Governor, which office he held for many years. When the British troops removed from South Carolina in 1782, he accompanied them to England, and died in London, July 4th, 1791, in the 82d year of his age.

**CADWALLADER, THOMAS, M.D.** This eminent physician was born in Philadelphia, and was the son of John Cadwallader. After finishing his studies in this country, which were conducted under the father of Dr. John Jones, late of New-York, he completed his medical education in Europe, and settled in Philadelphia, where he practised medicine many years with the most distinguished reputation.

Upon the establishment of the Pennsylvania hospital in the year 1752, he was elected one of its physicians, and was honored by an annual re-election until the time of his death, which was more than thirty years after the erection of that institution. Having studied anatomy under the celebrated Dr. Cheselden in London, on his return home he made dissections and demonstrations for the elder Shippen and some others who had not been abroad. This probably was the first business of the kind ever performed in Pennsylvania. He was greatly useful in promoting the interest of the Hospital, College and Philosophical Society, and always had a great share of well merited influence with his fellow citizens. Among the earliest publications on a medical subject in America was "*An Essay on the Iliac Passion*," by Dr. Cadwallader, printed about the year 1740, in which he exploded the practice, which till that time was common in the country, of giving quicksilver and drastic purgatives. He recommended in their place



mild cathartics, and the use of opiates. Dr. Rush used to quote it constantly in his lectures with praise. In some of the British Journals this practice is mentioned as the most successful in England in those counties where the disease still prevails ; in our own country it seldom occurs at present.

As a physician, he was uncommonly attentive and humane ; and as a man, he was as remarkable for the tenderness and benevolence of his disposition. Constantly blest with a serene mind, it was as rare to see him too much cast down by bad, as unusually elated by good fortune. So distinguished a trait was this cheerful disposition in his character, that it was once the means of saving his life on an occasion so extraordinary as to deserve mention ; for while it serves to point out the importance of good humor, more than the perusal of volumes on the subject, it also tends to show that an amiable behavior, and politeness of manner, are not only pleasing, but useful in our intercourse with the world. A provincial officer before the independence of this country, soured by some disgust, became weary of life, and resolved to deprive himself of an existence which was no longer a pleasure, but a burthen to him ; with this view he walked out early one morning with a fusil in his hand, determining to shoot the first person he should meet. He had not gone far before he met a pretty girl, whose beauty disarmed him. The next that presented was Dr. Cadwallader ; the Doctor bowed politely to the officer, who though unknown to him had the appearance of a gentleman, and accosted him with, "*Good morning, Sir, what sport ?*" The officer answered the Doctor civilly, and, as he afterward declared, was so struck by his pleasing manner and address, that he had no resolution to execute his desperate intention. Impelled, however, by the same gloomy disposition that actuated him when he set out, he repaired to an adjoining tavern, and shot a Mr. Scull, and thereby obtained his wished for end ; being afterwards hung in sight of the very house where he committed the premeditated act.

The celebrated Dr. John Jones of New-York was a pupil of Dr. Cadwallader, and when he published his surgical work, he dedicated it to his venerable preceptor in the following language. "To you, whose whole life has been one continued scene of benevolence and humanity, the most feeble efforts to soften human misery and smooth

the bed of death, will, I know, be an acceptable present, however short the well meant zeal of the author may fall of his purpose. Nor will you suspect me of the vanity of supposing I shall convey any thing new or instructive to men of knowledge and experience in their profession, much less to yourself ; to whose excellent precepts, both in physic and morals, I owe the best and earliest lessons of my life ; and if I have attained to any degree of estimation with my fellow citizens, it is with the most sincere and heartfelt pleasure that I publicly acknowledge the happy source."

CATHRALL, ISAAC, M.D. was a native of Philadelphia, and studied medicine under the direction of the late Dr. John Redman, the preceptor of Rush and Wistar. After acquiring all the instruction in his profession, which the opportunities of our capital offered, aided by a diligent attention on his part, he visited Europe, and attended the practice of the London hospitals, and the lectures of the most distinguished professors in that city. He continued his studies at Edinburgh, and finally visited Paris. He then returned home in the beginning of the year 1793, and commenced practice in Philadelphia. He obtained a very respectable share of business, and was uniformly distinguished by regular attention to his patients, and the faithful performance of the duties imposed upon him by his profession. It may be safely said that he never lost a patient for want of either. During the prevalence of the widely destroying epidemic fevers of 1793, '97, '98, and '99, he remained in the city, instead of seeking safety by flying, and was a severe sufferer by the disease of the first of those years. Previously to his illness, and after his recovery, besides attending to practice, he lost no opportunity of investigating every phenomenon connected with that pestilential epidemic, which could in any way tend to illustrate its pathology, or the peculiarities it exhibited ; and in the year 1794 he published his remarks thereon, and the mode of treatment he pursued. In conjunction with Dr. Physick, he dissected the bodies of some subjects of the fever of 1793, in order to discover the morbid effects produced by it on the system, and in particular reference to the nature of that singular, and generally fatal symptom, the dark colored ejection from the stomach in some cases of the disease. The result of their joint labors was published by them, with their individual signatures,

and he afterwards continued his dissections alone, with unabating zeal, whenever opportunity offered, during the subsequent epidemics, and occasional appearance of the disease, which more or less occurred for several years, until he obtained all the light which he thought dissection and experiment could throw upon its production and nature. In the year 1800 he read to the American Philosophical Society, of which he had been elected a member, an interesting paper on that subject. This paper affords ample evidence of the patient and accurate manner in which he investigated that hitherto inexplicable and supposed pestilential appearance, and of his fearless zeal in the prosecution of medical science. It is inserted in the 5th volume of the Transactions of the Society, and was also published in pamphlet form of 32 pages. A full account of it may be found in the 4th volume of the New-York Medical Repository. Like the admirable papers of Godwin on the respiration of animals, Stevens on digestion, and the writings of the immortal Rush, it is pointed, concise, and sententious, and should be read by every member of the medical profession. It may well serve as a model for those who are engaged in experimental inquiries.

In the year 1802 he published a pamphlet in conjunction with Dr. Wm. Currie, on the epidemic pestilential fever that prevailed in that year in Philadelphia.

In the year 1806 he was elected one of the surgeons of the city Alms-House, and was continued by the successive managers of that institution until the year 1816. The pensioners of the Alms-House warmly expressed their regret, when they were informed that their old friend had ceased to attend them.

In the year 1816 he was appointed by the governor of Pennsylvania, a member of the Board of Health of Philadelphia, but was continued only one year, as the board was reorganized, and new members chosen by the city councils, to whom the power was by law then given.

In that year he was suddenly seized, without any previous indisposition, with a paralytic affection of the muscles of his face, tongue, and lower extremities, from which he partially recovered by medical aid in a few weeks. He suffered two subsequent attacks, and his speech and mind became evidently affected. He frequently wandered in conversation, and exhibited symptoms of wrong association of ideas. At length, on the night of the 22d February,

1819, a stroke of apoplexy, in the course of three hours, deprived him of life, in the 56th year of his age.

Dr. Cathrall was not only a most judicious physician, but an excellent anatomist and surgeon; a close student, and sedulously bent on improvement in those branches of his profession, to which he more especially devoted himself. He paid great attention to morbid anatomy, and lost no opportunity which his public practice in the almshouse, or private patients afforded him, of making collections of such parts of the human structure, as had been the subject of disease. Of these he left a numerous and instructive collection of wet and dry preparations, and of bones, which, having suffered various accidents or operations, evinced either the effects of disease, or the wonderful power of nature in the restoration of parts, or substitutions for those which had been destroyed. He also made several masterly preparations calculated to explain certain nice and important operations, which to a young surgeon must be sources of great instruction. Had his life been spared, it was his intention to publish a volume of interesting surgical cases he had met with, the rough materials for which he left; but it is mentioned with regret, and for the benefit of those who read this sketch, that they are written in so hasty a manner, as to be decyphered with difficulty. He is not the first medical or scientific man, whose useful labors have failed to do all the good they might have produced, in consequence of this unfortunate careless manner of writing. The celebrated Haller deemed an apology necessary in the preface to a learned work,\* for the mistakes he made in quotations, arising from this fault. But the evils therefrom have been so fully pointed out in a volume† which it is taken for granted is in the office of every medical man, that no remark on the subject is here necessary.

Dr. Cathrall was educated in the religious principles of the Society of Friends, and naturally possessed a grave turn of mind, and a serious deportment. Retired in his habits, he was shy in making acquaintances, but firm in his friendships, and a well bred gentleman in his manners. In the important and endearing relations of a son, husband, and father, he was truly estimable. As a member of so-

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\* *Bibliotheca Medicinæ Practicæ*, vol. iii.

† *Rush's 16 Introd. Lectures*, Philadelphia, 1811, p. 171.

ciety, he set an example of rigid morality and inflexible integrity, attributes which every medical man ought to be proud to have annexed to his character, however distinguished his literary acquirements may be.—*J. M.*

CHALMERS, LIONEL, M.D. a native of Great Britain, was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, and came to this country and settled in South Carolina. He was an eminent physician, and distinguished for his various and extensive attainments. He made and recorded observations on the weather of South Carolina for ten successive years, viz. from 1750 to 1760. He communicated to the Medical Society in London a paper on "Opisthotonus and Tetanus" in 1754, which was published in the first volume of the Transactions of the society. He also wrote "A Treatise on the Weather and Diseases of South Carolina," which was published in London in 1776, and "An Essay on Fevers," a valuable work, published in Charleston, 1767. "In this he unfolded the outlines of the modern spasmodic theory of fevers. Hoffman had before glanced at the same principles; but their complete illustration was reserved for Cullen, and laid the foundation of his fame."

CHAUNCY, CHARLES, M.D. second President of Harvard College, was born in England in 1589. He had his grammar education at Westminster, and was at the school when the gunpowder plot was to have taken effect, and must have perished if the parliament house had been blown up. At the University of Cambridge he commenced Bachelor of Divinity, and took the degree of M.D. Being intimately acquainted with Archbishop Usher, one of the finest scholars in Europe, he had more than common advantages to expand his mind and make improvements in literature. A more learned man than Mr. Chauncy was not to be found among the fathers of New England. He had been chosen Hebrew Professor at Cambridge by the heads of both houses, and exchanged this branch of instruction to oblige Dr. Williams, Vice Chancellor of the University. He was well skilled in many oriental languages, but especially the Hebrew, which he knew by very close study, and by conversing with a Jew who resided in the same house. He was also an accurate Greek scholar, and was made professor of this language when he left the other professorship. This uncommon scholar became a preacher, and was settled at Ware. He displeased Archbishop

Laud by opposing the book of sports and reflecting upon the discipline of the church. This being viewed as a design to raise a fear among the people that some alteration of religion would ensue, he was questioned in the High Commission, and by order of that court the cause was referred to the Bishop of London, being his ordinary, who ordered him to make a submission in Latin.

This worthy man came over to New-England in 1638, arriving at Plymouth January 1st. He was soon after ordained at Scituate. In 1654 he was appointed President of Harvard College, and for a number of years performed the duties of that office with honor to himself and to the reputation of that seminary of learning. He was very industrious, and usually employed his morning hours in study or devotion. He constantly rose at four o'clock, winter and summer. In all his avocations he acquitted himself to universal approbation. At length on the Commencement of 1671 he made a solemn address, a kind of valedictory oration; and having lived to some good purpose, he prepared to die in peace, like a good servant who expected his reward. He died at the end of this year, aged eighty-two, having been about sixteen years pastor of the church in Scituate, and seventeen years president of Harvard College.

President Chauncy is said to have been an eminent physician; but we are not informed to what extent he devoted himself to the practice. He left six sons, all of whom were educated at Harvard College, and were preachers. Some of them were learned divines. Dr. Mather says they were all eminent physicians, as their father was before them. "In a new country," says the author of the New-England Biographical Dictionary, "where there are no physicians, a minister, who is a scientific man, may render himself eminently useful if able to practise physic; but we are not of the opinion of Dr. Chauncy that there ought to be no distinction between physic and divinity." Dr. Chauncy's character was singular in many respects; he allowed himself but little time for sleep, he fasted and prayed frequently and fervently, and in his sermons often spoke of the wearing of long hair with the utmost detestation, representing it as a heathenish practice, and one of the crying sins of the land.

CHILDS, TIMOTHY, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born at Deerfield, Massachusetts, February, 1748. He was enter-

ed as a member of Harvard College in 1764, but was under the necessity of taking a dismissal at the close of his junior year, by the failure of the funds on which he had relied to carry him through the regular course of that seminary. From Cambridge he returned to Dearfield, where he studied physic and surgery with Dr. Williams, and from whence in 1771, at the age of twenty-three, he removed to practise in Pittsfield.

An ardent and decided friend of civil liberty, he took a deep interest in those great political questions, which at that period were agitated between Great Britain and her American colonies. No young man, perhaps, was more zealously opposed to the arbitrary encroachments of the British parliament than Dr. Childs, and as a proof of the confidence reposed in him by the fathers of the town, it need only be mentioned that in 1774, when the crisis of open hostility was approaching, he was appointed chairman of a committee to draw a petition to his Majesty's Justices of Common Pleas in the county of Berkshire, remonstrating against certain acts of parliament which had just been promulgated, and praying them to stay all proceedings till those unjust and oppressive acts should be repealed.

In the same year, 1774, Dr. Childs took a commission in a company of minute-men, which, in compliance with a recommendation from the convention of the New-England states, was organized in that town. When the news of the battle at Lexington in 1775 was received, he marched with his company to Boston, where he was soon after appointed a surgeon of Colonel Patterson's regiment. From Boston he went with the army to New-York, and from thence accompanied the expedition to Montreal. In 1777 he left the army and resumed his practice in the town of Pittsfield, and continued in it till less than a week before his death, at the advanced age of seventy-three.

In 1792 Dr. Childs was elected a representative to the General Court, and for several years received the same pledge of public confidence. He also held a seat in the senate for a number of years, by the suffrages of the county in which he lived and died. But it was in his profession he was most highly honored and extensively useful. He was early elected a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and held the office of counsellor of that society to the time of his death. In the year 1811 the University of

Cambridge conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Medicine. When a district society, composed of the fellows of the state society, was established in the county in which he lived, he was appointed censor and elected to the office of president.

As a practitioner Dr. Childs stood high in public estimation, both at home and abroad. For more than thirty years he was the only physician of note in the town, and this single fact strongly testifies to the uncommon estimation in which he was held by those who were most competent to judge of his professional skill and success. He was also highly esteemed and often employed in the neighboring towns. Dr. Childs was always the steady advocate and supporter of religious institutions, and during the last year of his life he manifested an uncommon interest in experimental religion, and in his last sickness, especially, he spoke often of the blood and righteousness of Christ as the only hope of a sinner. Few men have continued in the practice of the profession so long, or have held out with such vigilance of body and mind to the last, or have been more useful in their professional and social circles. He died on the 25th of February, 1821, as he lived, honored, respected and lamented.—*New-England Journal of Medicine and Surgery.*

CHURCH, Dr. BENJAMIN, was graduated at Harvard College in 1754. He established himself as a physician in the town of Boston, where he rose to very considerable eminence in his profession. As a skilful and dexterous operator in surgery he was inferior to no one of his contemporaries in New-England; and as a physician he was in a career of distinguished reputation. He possessed a brilliant genius, a lively poetic fancy, and was an excellent writer. For several years preceding the American revolution he was a conspicuous character, and had great influence among the leading whigs and patriots of the day. When the war commenced in 1775, his character was so high that he was appointed physician general to the army.

But while he was performing the duties assigned him, circumstances occurred which led to a suspicion that he held a treacherous correspondence with the enemy. Certain letters in cypher were intercepted, which he had written to a relation in Boston. He was immediately arrested, imprisoned, and tried before a military tribunal appointed to investigate his conduct, and was pronounced guilty of a



criminal correspondence with the enemy. It appears that the only evidence by which he was convicted, rested on an intercepted letter directed to a friend in Boston. This letter was written in cypher ; and when decyphered and examined, its contents seemed in a considerable degree to justify the plea which he had made, that it was designed as an innocent stratagem to deceive and draw from the enemy some information for the benefit of the public.\* Dr. C. was at the same time a member of the House of Representatives, from which he would have been expelled had he not resigned his seat. He was, however, arraigned before the House, subjected to a rigid examination, and his letter was read by himself by paragraphs, and commented upon and explained. His defence before the House may be considered as a specimen of brilliant talents and great ingenuity. "Confirmed," said he, "in assured innocence, I stand prepared for your keenest searchings." "The warmest bosom here does not flame with a brighter zeal for the security, happiness and liberties of America, than mine." So high was party zeal, and such the jealousy and prejudice of the day, that a torrent of indignation was ever at hand to sweep from the land every guilty or suspected character. In the instance of Dr. C. there were not a few among the most respectable and intelligent of the community, who expressed strong doubts of a criminal design in his conduct. It was, however, his hard fate to pine in prison until the following year, when he obtained permission to depart for the West Indies. The vessel in which he sailed was supposed to have foundered at sea, as no tidings respecting her were ever obtained.

The writings of Dr. C. both in poetry and prose, have been much celebrated. Of his poetical pieces there remain some which are now read with pleasure. The "Elegy upon Dr. Mayhew," who died 1766 ; and the "Elegy upon Mr. Whitefield," 1770, are serious and pathetic. The "Elegy upon the Times," printed in the year 1765, is rather satirical ; but breathes the spirit which animated the patriots of that day. The poem No. XI. in the collection styled "Pietas et Gratulatio," in the opinion of the monthly reviewers, had the preference over the others.

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\* It was for some time difficult to find any person capable of decyphering Dr. Church's letter ; but at length the task was undertaken by the Rev. Samuel West, D.D. of Dartmouth, county of Bristol, who performed it with accuracy and precision.

His prose writings are mostly essays of a witty and philosophical kind, which are scattered in ephemeral publications, though some of them, perhaps, are known by those who were contemporary with him. The oration on the 5th of March, which he pronounced before the town in 1773, discovers a rich fancy ; it is certainly one of the very best of the " Boston Orations."

CLARK, JOHN. The name of John Clark has been, for a longer succession of years than any other in our country, distinguished in the ranks of medical practitioners.

Of the earliest physician of that name, who probably came from England in 1631 or 1632, and after living a few years in Boston removed to Rhode-Island, where he died April 20th, 1676, filling a long course of service in administering to the religious as well as natural wants of his neighbors, it cannot be necessary here to give any larger account, as it must be only a transcript from the American Biographical Dictionary of Rev. Dr. Wm. Allen.

CLARK, JOHN, a copy of whose portrait adorns this volume, arrived in America about the year 1650, as the first notice that can be discovered of him is in March, 1651, when it appears by the records of Boston he obtained liberty to build a wharf before his premises. Nothing is discoverable of this gentleman in print ; but the tradition in the family is, that he was honored with a diploma in England for his success in cutting for the stone. An error of the date in the engraving may be corrected. It should be 1664 ; and of course he died soon after the artist painted him. His age, being marked 66, makes his birth to be in 1598. It has not been generally known that portraits were so early taken on this side of the ocean.

By the family tradition credit is claimed for the care which he bestowed in the introduction of a breed of horses into our country, long known, it is said, in Plymouth, as Clark's breed ; and some confirmation of this report may, perhaps, be obtained from the will, by which to his son John, besides his books and instruments, are given " horses, mares and colts, both in this colony of Massachusetts and in Plymouth colony." The inventory shows, for those days, a respectable estate, amounting to £1295.6, wherein is found " the mares and horses, young and old, 12 at £5 each = £60." Other interesting items are, " money, gold and silver, £50 ; books and instruments, with several chi-rurgery materials in the closet, £60 ; medicines and drugs, £10 ; and a pocket-watch, £3."



JOHN CLARK M.D.

*Æ 66. Printed A.D. 1661.*



**CLARK, JOHN**, the son of the last named, pursued his father's profession. He, however, partook of the interest of his fellow citizens in civil affairs, and in the high liberty times was chosen a representative for Boston, 1689 and 1690, in which latter year, 17th December, he died without leaving a will. The inventory of his estate returned by his eldest son, John, makes the value of his books £24, of the grandfather's £12.

**JOHN**, the grandson of the first ancestor, born 27th January 1668, was graduated at Harvard College in 1687, and inherited the patriotic feelings of his father, for which he was highly honored. He was a representative for Boston from 1708 to 1714, and was chosen Speaker in 1709. In the controversy with Governor Shute, he was a strong opposer of prerogative, and for his service was elected to the Council in 1720, when the Governor interposed his negative. Upon this he was again chosen in the autumn of that year a representative for Boston, and so continued till 1724, being Speaker of the House for the last three years. While he was a representative, in 1721, a controversy arose between the House and the Council, and at the same time began to spread that destructive disease, the smallpox, against which in that year the preservative of inoculation was first introduced. Hutchinson, in his History, Vol. II. 271, says: "In the midst of the dispute, Mr. Hutchinson, one of the members for Boston, was seized with the smallpox, and died in a few days. The Speaker, Mr. Clark, was one of the most noted physicians in Boston, and notwithstanding all his care to cleanse himself from infection after visiting his patients, it was supposed, brought the distemper to his brother member," which so terrified the Court, that it was not possible to keep them together.

From 1724 to his death, 6th December, 1728, in the 60th year of his age, he was in the Council of the Province. His epitaph may here be inserted.

#### EPITAPH.

He who among Physicians shone so late,  
And by his wise Prescriptions conquered Fate,  
Now lies extended in the Silent Grave,  
Nor him alive would his vast Merit save.  
But still his Fame shall last, his Virtues live,  
And all sepulchral Monuments survive:  
Still flourish shall his name; nor shall this stone  
Long as his Piety and Love be known.

His first wife, Sarah Shrimpton, to whom he was married 30th April, 1691, died 20th November, 1717; his second, Elizabeth Hutchinson, married 16th April, 1718, died 2d December 1722. A third wife, Sarah Leverett, married 15th July, 1725, survived him, and became wife of the celebrated Rev. Dr. Benjamin Colman. All his instruments and utensils of surgery whatsoever, he gave by his will to his son John. In the inventory of his estate is mentioned the picture of *old* Dr. Clark, which is, without doubt, that of his grandfather, engraved for this work.

JOHN, son of the Counsellor, born 15th December, 1698, died of paralysis, 6th April, 1768, in his 70th year. He was a practitioner of medicine in Boston, and had a son of the same name, also a physician, who died before his father. Two other children are remembered by the father's will, William, to whom he gives all his drugs and medicines, and Elizabeth, who was wife of the famous Jonathan Mayhew, D.D. To the grandson, John, son of the deceased *fifth* John, were bequeathed all the books, chests of utensils, &c. relating to surgery or physic.

This grandson was educated at Harvard College; after graduation in 1772, he studied medicine with James Lloyd, a distinguished physician, and after visiting Europe for enjoyment of experience in the Hospitals, returned to participate the practice of his instructor. Being threatened with consumptive appearances, he removed to Waltham, where he died 29th July, 1788. He left a son, John, the seventh in succession of the family, who was graduated at Harvard College 1799, and received his degree of M.B. 1802. He died at Weston on Sunday, 21st April, 1805, aged 27, leaving no male issue.

CLAYTON, Dr. JOHN, an eminent botanist and physician of Virginia, was born in England in 1685, and came to Virginia in the year 1705, and resided near Williamsburg. He was elected a member of several of the first literary societies of Europe, and corresponded with many of the most learned naturalists of that period. As a practical botanist he was probably not inferior to any one of the age. He passed a long life in exploring and describing the plants of his country, and is supposed to have enlarged the botanical catalogue as much as any man who ever lived. He is the author of "*Flora Virginica*," a work published by Gronovius, at Leyden, 8vo. in 1739, 1743, and 1762. He published in the *Philosophical Transactions* several

communications, treating of the culture of the different species of tobacco, and an ample account of the medicinal plants which he had discovered in Virginia. He also left behind him two volumes of manuscripts neatly prepared for the press, and a *Hortus Siccus*, with marginal notes and references, for the engraver who should prepare the plates for his proposed work. He died December 15th, 1773, in the 88th year of his age. During the year preceding his decease, such was the vigor of his constitution even at this advanced period, and such his zeal in botanical researches, that he made a botanical tour through Orange county; and it is believed that he had visited most of the settled parts of Virginia. His character stands very high as a man of integrity, and as a good citizen.

He was a strict, though not ostentatious observer of the practice of the Church of England, and on all occasions seemed piously disposed. He was heard to say, whilst examining a flower, that he could not look into one without seeing the display of infinite power and contrivance, and that he thought it impossible for a botanist to be an atheist. Clayton's *Flora Virginica* is frequently referred to by Linnaeus, and by all the succeeding botanists, who have had occasion to treat of the plants of North America. His valuable manuscripts in two volumes, with the *Hortus Siccus*, were in possession of his son when the revolutionary war commenced, and were lodged in the office of the clerk of New-Kent, as a place of security from the invading enemy. An incendiary put a torch to the building; and thus perished not only the records of the county, but the labors of Clayton. Mr. Jefferson in his *Notes on Virginia* says that Dr. Clayton was a native of Virginia.

CLAYTON, Dr. JOSHUA, was Governor of the state of Delaware, and a member of the United States Senate; he died in 1799. He was highly respectable in the medical profession, in which he practised for many years.

In 1792 he addressed a friend as follows. "During the late war the Peruvian bark was very scarce and dear. I was at that time engaged in considerable practice, and was under the necessity of seeking a substitute for the Peruvian bark. I conceived that the poplar, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, had more aromatic and bitter than the Peruvian, and less astringency. To correct and amend those qualities, I added to it nearly an equal quantity of the bark of the root of dogwood, *cornus florida*, and half the

quantity of the inside bark of the white oak tree. This remedy I prescribed for several years, in every case in which I conceived the Peruvian bark necessary or proper, with at least equal, if not superior success. I used it in every species of intermittent, gangrenes, mortifications, and in short, in every case of debility."

CLOSSEY, SAMUEL, M.D. was an Irish physician, of very respectable attainments, who established himself in medical practice in New-York. He had, previously to his arrival in America, attained a high degree of eminence in the medical profession, both as a practitioner, and an author of an interesting volume on morbid anatomy. This was entitled "Observations on some of the Diseases of the Human Body, chiefly taken from the Dissections of Morbid Bodies." It was published in London in 1763. He was for a short time chosen to the anatomical chair, and the Professorship of Natural Philosophy in King's College, now Columbia College. Upon the organization of the first medical school in New-York in 1768, Dr. Clossey was chosen the Professor of Anatomy; and directed his labors with great assiduity to the establishment of that institution. Political difficulties in the American government caused him to return to his own country, where he died a short time after his arrival.

COCHRAN, JOHN, M.D. This gentleman was born on the 1st of September, 1730, in Chester county, in the state of Pennsylvania. His father, James Cochran, was a respectable farmer, who had come from the north of Ireland, and the lands which he first purchased still continue in the possession of his descendants. Discovering in his son John the desire of a learned profession, he sent him to a grammar school in the vicinity, that was conducted by the late Dr. Francis Allison, who was confessedly one of the most correct and faithful grammarians that ever taught in this country. Having finished his preliminary education, Mr. Cochran betook himself to the study of physic and surgery under the late Dr. Thompson, in Lancaster. Under this gentleman he improved greatly, by his diligence and attention, in the knowledge of his profession.

About the time at which he finished his medical studies, the war of 1755 commenced in America between England and France. The army then presented to the mind of Dr. Cochran a scene of usefulness and further improvement. As there were not any great hospitals at that time in the



provinces, he readily perceived that the army would be an excellent school for his improvement, especially in surgery, as well as in the medical treatment of many diseases. He soon obtained the appointment of surgeon's mate in the hospital department ; and having continued with the northern army during the whole of that war, enjoying the friendship and advice of Dr. Munro, and other eminent surgeons and physicians, he quitted the service with the character of an able and experienced practitioner.

At the close of the war he settled in Albany, where he married Miss Gertrude Schuyler, the only sister of the late General Schuyler. From that city he removed in a short time to New-Brunswick, in the state of New-Jersey, where he continued to practise physic and surgery with great reputation. In discharging the duties of his profession he bestowed that attention, and exercised that tenderness and humanity, which never fail to solace the feelings of the afflicted.

When the war became serious between Great Britain and the United States, Dr. Cochran was too zealous a whig, and too much attached to the interests of his native country, to remain an idle spectator. Towards the last of the year 1776, he offered his service as a volunteer in the hospital department. General Washington was too good a judge not to discover the value of a physician who joined great experience to diligence, fidelity and a sound judgment, and accordingly, in the winter of 1777, he recommended him to Congress in the following words: "I would take the liberty of mentioning a gentleman whom I think highly deserving of notice, not only on account of his abilities, but for the very great assistance which he has afforded us in the course of this winter, merely in the nature of a volunteer. This gentleman is Dr. John Cochran, well known to all the faculty. The place for which he is well fitted, and which would be most agreeable to him, is Surgeon General of the middle department ; in this line he served all the last war in the British service, and has distinguished himself this winter, particularly in his attention to the smallpox patients and the wounded." He was accordingly appointed on the 10th of April, 1777, Physician and Surgeon General in the middle department. In the month of October, 1781, Congress was pleased to give him the appointment of Director General of the hospitals of the United States, an appointment that was the more

honorable, because it was not solicited by him. It is hardly necessary to observe that the Doctor was much indebted to his observation and experience while he was in the British service, for the great improvement he made in the hospital department, from the time it was put under his care. Nor is it necessary to observe that while other gentlemen, high in the medical staff, were disgusting the public with mutual charges and criminations, Dr. Cochran always preserved the character of an able physician and an honest man.

A short time after the peace, Dr. Cochran removed with his family to New-York, where he attended to the duties of his profession until the adoption of the new constitution, when his friend, President Washington, retaining, to use his own words, "a cheerful recollection of his past services," nominated him to the office of Commissioner of Loans for the state of New-York. This office he held until a paralytic stroke disabled him in some measure from the discharge of its duties, upon which he gave in his resignation, and retired to Palatine, in the county of Montgomery, where he terminated a long and useful life, on the 6th of April, 1807, in the 77th year of his age.

In reviewing the character of this respectable physician, we have only to remark that without the flights of imagination which tempt some gentlemen to theorize and speculate at the risk of their patients, he united a vigorous mind and correct judgment, with information derived and improved from long experience and faithful habits of attention to the duties of his profession.

He had in early life received impressions, under the care of a religious father, which he never lost ; for though he served long in the army, in which men are too apt to become infidels or deists, he never cherished a single doubt concerning the truths of revelation.—*Medical and Philosophical Register*.

COFFIN, Dr. NATHANIEL, M.M.S.S.\* Dr. Nathaniel Coffin came to Portland in 1738 from Newburyport, his native place, where he studied physic with Dr. Tappan. In 1739 he was married to Patience Hale, by whom he had eight children. Dr. Coffin had an arduous task in pursuing his professional duties, having nearly the whole of the eastern country to attend, from Welles to the

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\* Written by his son, Dr. Nathaniel Coffin, at the advanced age of 82.





NATHANIEL COFFIN, M.D.

Loth of Pendleton

Kennebeck. He was frequently called to perform operations on persons who had been tomahawked and scalped by the Indians. He was so much respected by these that they always furnished him with a safe conveyance through their settlements, and treated him with the greatest kindness and hospitality.

From his studies in Newburyport he could not have acquired the information he possessed, and which made him so extensively useful, particularly in surgery; but it may be easily accounted for, by the opportunity he had of intercourse with the young gentlemen who came out in the ships as surgeons. After having served their apprenticeship in London, they were admitted for one year or more into some of the hospitals there, to finish their education, and were then employed in the above capacity. Discovering their superior advantages, he always made them welcome at his house, and also provided them with the means of accompanying him to visit his patients. In this manner he obtained yearly information of every new discovery or improvement relative to the science of medicine or surgery. In May, 1763, he was attacked with a palsy, notwithstanding which he persevered in his intention of sending his son to London, to attend the hospitals of St. Thomas and Guy in the borough.

In January, 1766, he had another attack of the palsy, of which he died, aged fifty years.

COFFIN, NATHANIEL, M.D. M.M.S.S. son of the preceding, was at the time of his decease the oldest and one of the most eminent physicians in the State of Maine. The first ancestor of his family who came to this country was Tristram Coffin,\* who emigrated from England in 1642.

Dr. Coffin was born in Portland, on the 3d of May, 1744, in which place he always lived, and where he closed his long and useful life. The country at the time of his birth, for many miles round Casco bay, including the site of Portland, was called Falmouth; afterward the part most thickly settled, lying on the harbor, was incorporated into a separate town by the name of Portland.

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\* Some few years since Sir Isaac Coffin, Bart. had a medal struck in commemoration of his ancestor, Tristram Coffin; which with his accustomed liberality he presented to all the male descendants of the name. It bore on one side a full length figure of their ancestor in the Spanish costume, with this inscription, "Tristram Coffin, the first of the race that settled in America, 1642"; and on the reverse were four hands joined—"Do honor to his name"—"Be united."

He completed his preparatory medical education under his father ; but the limited means of scientific improvement then existing in this thinly peopled section of the country, induced the son with the advice of his father to embark for England at the age of eighteen. He there prosecuted his studies at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, under the distinguished Hunter, Akenside, McKenzie and others ; and returned to commence the practice of his profession at the early age of twenty-one.

The time which he passed in a land, then as far excelling his own in the advancement of the arts and sciences, as the vigor of manhood excels the weakness of infancy, was faithfully improved. His industry and desire for knowledge were greatly promoted by the ready tact and practical good sense which were distinguishing features of his mind ; and at the death of his father, which occurred in 1766, he was qualified in no ordinary degree to succeed to an extensive and arduous practice. He married in the 26th year of his age the only daughter of Isaac Foster, Esq. of Charlestown, by whom he had eleven children.

In consequence of the rapid increase of population in this part of the country after the close of the war, his labors, though greatly multiplied, soon became confined principally to his native town. His father, who had resided on the same spot with himself, had within the memory of his son been compelled to travel with his healing art over an extent of country reaching forty miles west, and more than fifty on the east, the only messenger of health and consolation that could then be procured within these limits ; while the son found in his native town and its vicinity, a constant demand for his time, his talents and his benevolence. At the commencement of his professional career, Dr. Coffin might often be found travelling through unfrequented and dangerous roads, to visit patients who possessed none of the comforts and scarcely the necessaries of civilized life, while the cannon of the enemy was sounding in his ears, and before his eyes lay all the desolation with which war ravages the land. Could this amiable and enterprising physician, while watching in the abodes of misery, have relieved the tedious hours with an anticipation of the peace and prosperity which were so soon to reward the constancy of his countrymen, how would his benevolent heart have been cheered at the prospect ! He loved his country, and ardently desired her freedom and

advancement ; but few persons at that period dreamed of independence. It was not long, however, before the prospect brightened, and America, though struggling with a power incalculably superior to her own, gave signs of a resolution not to be overcome.

The inhabitants of Falmouth caught the general spirit of patriotism which was daily gaining ground, and determined to relinquish their commerce with England. This resolution was first enforced on Mr. Coulson, an English resident there, who had married a sister of Dr. Coffin. In consequence of these offensive proceedings an order was obtained from the admiral on this station for the destruction of the town ; and Captain Mowatt drew up his naval force in the port to execute the order.

On this occasion Dr. Coffin, with two others, was employed by his townsmen to repair on board the *Canceau*, to expostulate with the commander upon the severity of his commission, and to endeavor to avert or mitigate its evils. In this attempt he was unsuccessful. Captain Mowatt was determined to burn the town, and a short interval only was obtained for the inhabitants to remove some of their effects, and to escape with their families into the adjacent country. This excellent man continued to share the lot of his suffering townsmen during that trying season, and his faithfulness deserves to be recorded with that of the respectable and worthy pastors of the flock, who abode by their charge in their dispersion. After the alarm had a little subsided, the inhabitants ventured to return to their ruined homes, and began gradually to rebuild their houses. Dr. Coffin was the first to enter the town, and to animate by his courage and cheerfulness the hearts of the people, sunk into despondency by the melancholy spectacle which on all sides met their view. His services as a physician were at this time particularly acceptable to his fellow-citizens, harassed as they were by a foreign enemy, and liable to all those diseases and misfortunes incident to perilous times. In seasons of public calamity an intelligent and benevolent physician is indeed an angel of mercy wherever he appears. Sickness is one of the severest aggravations of poverty and misfortune ; it unnerves the strong arm and the stout heart, which in the vigor of health find new resources and new enterprise from peril and difficulty.

During the period of the revolution sick and disabled seamen and soldiers were frequently brought by our ships into Portland. Dr. Coffin was thus offered repeated opportunities for a display of those principles of practice which he had previously acquired in foreign hospitals, and which a rare skill and discriminating judgment enabled him at all times to apply with the most successful results. As a surgeon, Dr. Coffin was in his native town ranked at the head of the profession; always prompt and ready, with a resolution that never wavered in the boldest operations, with an eye steadily fixed on its object, and a hand that never trembled,\* and all the practical knowledge of anatomy essential to the successful treatment of surgical diseases, he was prepared to accomplish what no other practitioner around him presumed to undertake. If he possessed a peculiar facility in any one branch of his profession, it was certainly operative surgery. Some of his operations were performed at the advanced age of 80, with all the promptness and decision of a youthful professor. His reputation was also high as a medical practitioner; and what is said of the learned and distinguished Dr. Baillie may with truth be applied to him: "He had a most natural, unassuming but decided manner, which in the exercise of his professional duties was the same to all persons and on all occasions. His mind was always quietly, but eagerly directed to the investigation of the symptoms of the disease, and he had so distinct and systematic a mode of putting questions, that the answer often presented a corrected view of the whole, and could not fail to impress the patient with his clear and comprehensive knowledge."

He was honored with all those professional distinctions which his merits and attainments so truly deserved. The honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine was conferred on him by the College of Brunswick; he was the first President of the Medical Society of Maine, and for many years discharged the duties of Hospital Surgeon for marine patients in the district of Maine.

Possessing a constitution naturally healthy and vigorous, and a mind resolute and intelligent, there was no peril which he was not prepared to encounter, and no adversity

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\* It is worthy of remark, that Dr. Coffin performed operations equally well with either hand.



which he could not endure, and he has well deserved the distinction awarded him by the public for his constant and unremitted exertions during a period of more than sixty years.

Dr. Coffin was surrounded in the early part of his career by suffering friends and patients, but his life was closed amid the blessings of freedom and independence. In the peaceful evening of his days, all the enjoyments of prosperity and affection clustered round his dwelling ; but it should not be forgotten that the respectability and happiness he then experienced, were the well earned reward of the virtues, the talents and the faithfulness of early years.

It appears that Dr. Coffin had no ambition to figure as an author, though he read the best medical publications, and reflected attentively upon what he read. We are not aware that he has left behind him any papers for the public eye. This is to be regretted, for no one had a better opportunity of noticing the diseases of our climate for the last half century, and of recording the various changes which they have assumed and the consequent change of practice which must have necessarily followed in their treatment and cure.

His private character, though known only to a small circle of fellow citizens and friends, will never be effaced from their memory. The keenness and ready tact of his intellect, increased by the peculiar and difficult circumstances in which he commenced practice, his sound judgment, founded on long experience and rational deduction, the perfect simplicity and singleness of his heart, his benevolence and readiness to answer the call of duty or humanity at the risk of any personal sacrifice, his fondness for the young and his affectionate solicitude to promote their happiness, and his equanimity and courage in cases of misfortune and difficulty, are qualities, which, although they do not make much figure in a narrative, insure to their possessor respect and happiness, and shed a pure and sacred light around the memory of departed worth.

In his manners he was a polished specimen of the state of American society existing before the revolution ; he was one of the most graceful gentlemen of the old school, and his deportment was marked by a uniform and captivating urbanity.

His long experience, added to his varied knowledge, rendered his services valuable to the last, and the faculties of

his mind retained a singular freshness even in the ordinary decays of nature.

He made an early profession of his religious principles and was one of the first who united in the Unitarian faith with the Rev. Dr. Freeman of Boston, more than 40 years ago ; and for a number of years since, he was associated with the church of the first parish in his native place.

The manner of his decease is briefly told. In 1823 he had a slight attack of asthma, which disappeared in a few days ; but it returned in April, 1824, and brought on extreme debility which threatened his life, and ended by a general breaking up of his robust and healthy constitution. From this period he began to decline, while a gouty affection appearing, produced, according to its ordinary effects on a debilitated system, hydrothorax, which at last proved fatal ; and notwithstanding the unremitting and affectionate attentions of an anxious family, and the constant services of his medical friends, with as little bodily suffering as could be expected, and a mind but slightly impaired, he expired on the 18th October, 1826. It may be noticed that he died on the anniversary of the destruction of Portland, which he survived 51 years.\*

COLDEN, CADWALLADER, Esq. This truly eminent and worthy character, who united in himself the several qualities we are accustomed to admire in the physician, naturalist and philosopher, was the son of the Rev. Alexander Colden, of Dunse in Scotland, and was born on the 17th day of February, 1688. After he had laid the foundation of a liberal education under the immediate inspection of his father, he went to the University of Edinburgh, where in 1705 he completed his course of collegiate studies. He now devoted his attention to medicine and mathematical science until the year 1708, when being allured by the fame of William Penn's colony, he came over to this country about two years after. He practised physic with no small share of reputation till 1715, when he returned to England. While in London he was introduced to that eminent philosopher, Dr. Edmund Halley, who formed so favorable an opinion of a paper on Animal Secretion, written by Dr. Colden in early life, that he read it before the Royal Society, the notice of which

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\* We are indebted to the newspaper notices of the decease of Dr. Coffin for much of the information contained in this memoir.

learned body it greatly attracted. At this time he formed an acquaintance with some of the most distinguished literary and scientific characters, with whom he ever after maintained a regular correspondence. From London he went to Scotland, and married a young lady of a respectable Scotch family by the name of Christie, with whom he returned to America in 1716.

In 1718 he settled in the city of New-York ; but soon after relinquished the practice of physic, and became a public character : he held in succession the office of Surveyor General of the province, Master in Chancery, Member of the Council, and Lieutenant Governor. Previous to his acceptance of this last station, he obtained a patent for a tract of land, designated by the name of Coldenham, near Newburgh, to which place he retired with his family about the year 1755, and spent a great part of his life. Here he appears to have been occupied without interruption in the pursuit of knowledge, particularly in botanical and mathematical studies, at the same time that he continued his correspondence with learned men in Europe and America.

In 1761 he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of New-York, which commission he held until the time of his decease, the administration of the government repeatedly falling on him by the death or absence of several governors in chief. His political character was rendered very conspicuous by the firmness of his conduct during the violent commotions which preceded the revolution. His administration is also memorable for several charters of incorporation for useful and benevolent purposes. After the return of Governor Tryon, in 1775, he was relieved from the cares of government. He then retired to a seat on Long-Island, where a recollection of his former studies, and a few select friends, ever welcomed by a social and hospitable disposition, cheered him in his last days. He died in the 89th year of his age, on the memorable 28th of September, 1776, a few hours before the city of New-York was in flames, retaining his senses to the last and expiring without a groan.

Dr. Colden began at an early period of his life to pay great attention to the vegetable productions of America, in which delightful study his daughter afterwards became distinguished. In honor of Dr. Colden Linnæus named a

plant of the tetrandrous class, *Coldenia*.\* This plant Miss Colden had first described. He was attentive to the physical constitution of the country, and left a long course of diurnal observations on the thermometer, barometer and winds. He also wrote a history of the prevalent diseases of the climate, and, if he was not the first to recommend the cooling regimen in the cure of fevers, he was certainly one of its earliest and warmest advocates, and opposed with great earnestness the prevailing mode of treatment in the smallpox.

In the years 1741 and '2 a fever which occasioned great mortality, prevailed in the city of New-York, and created much alarm. He communicated his thoughts to the public on the most probable method of curing the calamity in a small treatise, in which he enlarged on the pernicious effects of marshy exhalations, moist air, damp cellars, filthy stores, and dirty streets; showed how much these nuisances prevailed in many parts of the city, and pointed out the remedies. The corporation of the city presented him their thanks, and established a plan for draining and clearing out the city, which was attended with the most salutary effects. He published a treatise "On the Cure of Cancer." Another essay of his "On the Virtues of the Great Water Dock," introduced him to an acquaintance with Linnæus. In 1753 he published some observations on an epidemical sorethroat, which appeared in Massachusetts in 1735, and had spread over a great part of North America. These observations are to be found in Cary's American Museum.

When he became acquainted with Linnæus's system of botany, he applied himself with new delight to that study. His descriptions of between three and four hundred American plants, were printed in the *Acta Upsaliensia*. He published the "History of the Five Indian Nations," in 2 vols. 12mo. But the subject which drew Dr. Colden at one time of his life from every other pursuit, was what he first published under the title of *The Cause of Gravitation*, which, being much enlarged, was republished by Dodsley, in 1751, in 1 vol. 4to., entitled, *The Principles of Action in Matter*, &c.

Though his principal attention, after the year 1760, was necessarily directed from philosophical to political mat-

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\* See the Correspondence of Linnæus by Sir James Edward Smith.

ters, he maintained with great punctuality his literary correspondence, particularly with Linnæus of Upsal, Gronovius of Leyden, Drs. Porterfield and Whytte of Edinburgh, Dr. Fothergill and Mr. Collinson, F.R.S. of London. There were also several communications on mathematical and astronomical subjects, between him and the Earl of Macclesfield. With most of the eminent men of our own country he held an almost uninterrupted epistolary correspondence. Among them we may mention the names of Dr. Garden, Mr. J. Bartram, Dr. Douglass, Dr. John Bard, Dr. Samuel Bard, James Alexander, Esq., and Dr. Franklin. With Dr. Franklin in particular he was a constant and intimate correspondent, and they regularly communicated to each other their philosophical and physical discoveries, especially on electricity. In their letters are to be observed the first dawnings of many of those discoveries which Dr. Franklin has communicated to the world, and which so much astonished and benefited mankind. In a letter to one of his friends Dr. Franklin gives an account of the organization of the American Philosophical Society, in which he mentions that Dr. Colden first suggested the idea and plan of that institution.

The numerous manuscript papers left by Dr. Colden at the time of his death, which for many years were supposed to have been lost, have been lately found, and are now in the possession of his grandson, Cadwallader D. Colden, Esq., Attorney General for the Southern district of the state of New-York. They are chiefly on historical and philosophical subjects, and many of them are of the greatest value. Among these are Observations on Smith's History of New-York, in a series of letters to his son Alexander Colden : An Introduction to the Study of Philosophy: A corrected copy of his Account of the Fever which prevailed in New-York in the years 1741—2. This production may be found in Hosack and Francis's Register, vol. 1. An Inquiry into the Principles of Vital Motion : A Translation of the Letters of Cicero, with an Introduction by C. Colden : *Plantæ Coldenhamiæ in provincia Novboracensi spontanea crescentes, quas ad methodum Linnæi Sexualem, anno 1742, observavit Cadwallader Colden* : A corrected and augmented copy of his Principles of Action in Matter : A Treatise on Electricity, &c. Besides these there is a great mass of correspondence on medical, philosophical, and literary subjects, with many eminent

physicians and philosophers in Europe and America. These letters carry his correspondence back to the year 1710, and bring it down, almost uninterruptedly, till the time of his death. There are, too, a great variety of papers on public affairs, which must be considered as documents of primary importance, as they necessarily contain numerous facts which throw light on the history of this state. Dr. Colden was unquestionably a man of various and extensive learning, of superior talents, of the most indefatigable industry, and, indeed, in many respects, his character will not suffer by a comparison with that of our illustrious countryman, Benjamin Franklin.—*American Medical and Philosophical Register*, vol. 1.

CRAIK, JAMES, M.D. Dr. Craik was born in Scotland, where he received his education for the medical service of the British army. He came to the colony of Virginia in early life, and had the honor to accompany the youthful Washington in his expedition against the French and Indians in 1754, and returned in safety after the battle of the Meadows and surrender of Fort Necessity. In 1755 he attended Braddock in his march through the wilderness, and, on the 9th of July, assisted in dressing the wounds of that brave, but unfortunate commander. At the close of the French war, the subject of this article resumed and continued his professional labors till the commencement of the revolution in 1775. By the aid of his early and fast friend, General Washington, he was transferred to the medical department in the Continental army, and rose to the first rank and distinction. In 1777 he had an opportunity, which he gladly embraced, to show his fidelity to his general and to his adopted country, by taking an active part in the development of a nefarious conspiracy, the object of which was the removal of the commander in chief. In 1780 he was deputed to visit Count De Rochambeau, then recently arrived at Rhode Island, and to make arrangements for the establishment of hospitals to accommodate the French army. Having performed this difficult duty, he continued in the army to the end of the war, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis, on the memorable 19th of October, 1781.\*

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\* Dr. Craik was the Director General of the Hospital at Yorktown, and the present author has a distinct recollection of receiving from his hands the necessary surgical implements when a battle was expected on our approach to the British lines, and of receiving his directions to keep near in the view of the Marquis De Lafayette, and to pay the first attention to him in case he should be wounded.

After the cessation of hostilities, the Doctor settled as a physician in Charles county in Maryland ; but soon removed to the neighborhood of his illustrious friend and companion, the farmer of Mount Vernon, at his particular, repeated and urgent request. In 1798, when, like a guardian angel, the never to be forgotten Washington again stepped forth to redress the wrongs of his country, the venerable Craik was once more appointed to his former station in the medical staff. With the disbandment of the army then called into service, ceased the public professional labors of the subject of this memoir, whose life, for nearly half a century, had been devoted with zeal and high reputation to the cause of his country.

One trying duty yet remained to be performed. It was to witness the closing scene, and to receive the last sigh of his revered commander, the most distinguished man of his age. Their youthful commissions had been signed on the same day. They had served together in the ranks of war. Their friendship was cemented by a social intercourse of fifty years continuance, and they were greatly endeared to each other by common toils, privations and honors. At length the moment of parting arrived. It was tender, affectionate, solemn, and impressive. In reference to that painful event, the Doctor is said to have expressed himself in this manner : " I, who was bred amid scenes of human calamity, who had so often witnessed death in its direst and most awful forms, believed that its terrors were too familiar to my eye to shake my fortitude ; but when I saw this great man die, it seemed as if the bonds of my nature were rent asunder, and that the pillar of my country's happiness had fallen to the ground."

As a physician, Dr. Craik was greatly distinguished by his skill and success, and his professional merits were highly and justly appreciated. In the various relations of private life, his character was truly estimable, and his memory is precious to all who had the happiness and the honor of his acquaintance. He was one, and what a proud eulogy it is, of whom the immortal Washington was pleased to write, "*my compatriot in arms, my old and intimate friend.*" He departed this life at the place of his residence in Fairfax county, on the 6th of February, 1814, in the 84th year of his age.—*Alden's Epitaphs, and other Documents.*

CUMING, JOHN, M.M.S.S. was the son of Mr. Robert Cuming, who emigrated from Scotland at the close of the rebellion in 1745. He settled and died in the town of Concord, Massachusetts. His son John entered college at Cambridge, but was not graduated. He left college, and entered the army in the French war of 1755, in the capacity of Lieutenant, and was taken prisoner by the French and Indians. After the termination of the war, he studied physic, and became a respectable and successful practitioner in his native town.

Dr. Cuming had a taste for military operations. He held the commission of Colonel in the militia, and had the offer of a General's commission at the commencement of the American revolution. But the situation of our army and country appalled his spirit, and his courage failed him. Being a member of the Provincial Congress, which sat at Watertown, he was one of a committee appointed to view the sea coast from Boston to Plymouth, and to report what defence might and ought to be made against the invading British. The defenceless state of the coast, and our inability to erect any works of importance, discouraged the spirits of the Colonel, and on being appointed to the command of a brigade in the Northern army, he declined the commission, retired to his house, and scarcely visited his patients till our affairs brightened, and a good prospect of success opened to view. Owing to this circumstance, probably, Dr. Cuming has not been publicly noticed according to his real merit. Some years before his death, he was admitted to the degree of Master of Arts in Harvard University. He died of pneumonia, July 3d, 1788, aged 60 years. In his last will he bequeathed five hundred pounds sterling to Harvard University for the support of a medical professor : several legacies to individuals, and to the church and town of Concord ; one of fifty pounds sterling to procure plate for the church ; one of twenty-five, for the silent poor of the church and town ; and one for schools.

Dr. Cuming was remarkably active and affable in the exercise of his professional duties ; an able and honest physician, and a sensible, generous friend. He was early disposed to the profession and practice of religion, and was considered to be a sincere Christian.

CUTTER, AMMI R. M.D. M.M.S.S. Hon. The subject of this memoir was born in North Yarmouth, in the



state of Maine, in the year 1734. His father, who was graduated at Cambridge in 1725, was the first minister in North Yarmouth, and at the time of his death was chaplain of one of the New-England regiments at the siege of Louisbourg in 1745. His mother, whose name was Bradbury, was from Newburyport, in the county of Essex, and, as appears from her letters now remaining in the possession of her descendants, was a pious and well educated woman. Soon after the decease of her husband, she sent this, her eldest son, at the early age of twelve years, to be educated under the care of a clergyman at Cambridge. The distance was then, probably, not less than 150 miles, and much of the road lay through a thick wilderness. The journey was performed by the youth on horseback, attended by a servant ; it was a difficult and perilous enterprise, and more than seventy years afterward the writer of this has heard the venerable old man recite his "hair-breadth 'scapes" during the ride. He entered Harvard College in 1748. Among his contemporaries were some young gentlemen from Portsmouth, N. H., one of whom was John Wentworth, afterwards Governor of the Province of New-Hampshire. With these, particularly with Mr. Wentworth, he formed habits of close intimacy, and was prevailed upon by them to select that town as the place to pursue his professional studies, after being graduated at Harvard in 1752. There are now before us letters to Dr. Cutter from his young friends, which indicate that the qualities of his mind and heart, which in after life rendered him so justly beloved and esteemed, were then fully developed.

He commenced the study of medicine under the care of Dr. Clement Jackson, an eminent physician in Portsmouth, in 1752, and immediately upon being admitted to practice, was appointed surgeon of a body of rangers under the celebrated Robert Rogers, which formed a part of the army on the frontiers in the war with the Indians in 1755. He remained with these troops in their fatiguing and hazardous service, until they were disbanded. In the year 1758 he was appointed surgeon of the New-Hampshire troops which engaged in the successful expedition against Louisbourg. While employed in this service he was near falling a victim to the smallpox, which committed greater ravages among the Americans than the arms of the enemy, and which carried off, amongst

others, the commander of the New-Hampshire troops, the friend and patron of Cutter. We have often heard Dr. Cutter speak of the events of this interesting expedition, in which the military resources, courage and talents of New-England were a second time successfully displayed to the world. He delighted to speak of General Wolfe, the second in command, whom he personally knew, and whose easy and engaging manners and chivalrous character, rendered him no less the idol of the army, than his subsequent services justly made him the favorite of his country. Dr. Cutter used to say that the death of Wolfe was a fortunate event for the Americans ; an opinion which the remarkable incapacity of the British generals during the war of our revolution, seems to justify.

Upon his return from Louisbourg in 1758, he married the lady who now survives him, and immediately entered upon the sober duties of life. As he united great courtousness and suavity of manners to unwearied diligence and unwavering integrity, he soon obtained a very extensive range of practice. In 1759 Major Rogers urged him to resume his station in the service in another expedition of the Rangers to the frontiers and into Canada ; but his professional engagements and the sweets of domestic life counterbalanced his inclination. From this period until the commencement of the revolution, it does not appear that there were any events in Dr. Cutter's life worthy of being made public ; the cares of an increasing family, and the duties of a responsible and laborious profession, were enough to fully occupy his attention. The breaking forth of the revolution presented the great question to his mind under circumstances of more than common embarrassment. Sir John Wentworth, Governor of the Province, had been the friend of his youth, and their mutual friendship had ripened with their years. He was an amiable and accomplished gentleman, and an efficient, liberal and public-spirited magistrate, and he had projected schemes for advancing the prosperity of the Province, which were already in the course of successful completion. In joining the whigs, therefore, against the Governor, which Dr. Cutter did early and decidedly, he had to make a sacrifice of private feelings upon the altar of patriotism, which fell not to the lot of all. The Governor had previously procured for him a commission as a mandamus counsellor, which, foreseeing the embarrassments which were coming,

he very wisely declined accepting. Their friendly intercourse, however, was not interrupted by difference of political opinions ; for after the Governor had been compelled to take refuge on board the ship of war near the fort, he sent a pressing request to Dr. Cutter to give him another meeting. It was their last interview, as the Governor soon after left the harbor never again to return, and Dr. Cutter was probably the last New-Hampshire gentleman he had an opportunity of seeing within the limits of the republic. Forty years afterward, when a gentleman from Portsmouth happened to see Sir John at Halifax, Nova Scotia, when he was Governor of that Province, the first question he asked, after the usual salutation, was as to the welfare of his early friend.

In the beginning of the year 1777 Congress resolved to reorganize the medical department, and Dr. Cutter was called upon to give his time and services to his country in her hour of need. He had then a family of ten young children, and an extensive and lucrative range of practice ; but in those days no man felt at liberty to choose between the service of his country and his own convenience. The post offered to Dr. C. was that of Physician General of the eastern department, and his station was to be at Fish-kill, on the North River. The following extract of a letter from General Whipple, who signed the declaration of independence, and who was then a member of the Congress, will show the nature of this appointment, and serves to exhibit the high estimation in which Dr. Cutter was held. It is dated at Philadelphia, April 15, 1777. "The army now forming will, I hope, under Heaven, free America from the calamities of a destructive war. The scenes of horror and distress occasioned by some mismanagement in the medical department last year, were really shocking to humanity. Congress being sensible of this, and determined to remedy the evil if possible, have formed a plan on the most liberal principles, with a design if possible to draw into the service of their country, gentlemen of the first eminence from different parts of the continent, many of whom have already engaged. Your humanity, and firm attachment to the most glorious cause that ever mankind was engaged in, will, I flatter myself, induce you to forego the pleasures of domestic happiness for a time, as you will thereby render a most essential service to your country. I hope, therefore, soon to have the pleasure of hearing of

your acceptance of the trust, and of your arrival at the hospital, which for the department in which you are placed will be at some convenient place on the eastern side of the Hudson River."

Dr. Cutter remained at Fishkill and its neighborhood during the greater part of this year, and did not return home until the beginning of the next, when the circumstances of his family compelled him to resign his office, and he returned once more to the business of his profession and to the task, to him a delightful one, of educating his children. He was, in the New-England phrase, eminently a domestic man ; he sought no higher enjoyments than he could find at his own parlor fire side ; that was the scene of his pleasures and the centre of his hopes, and his absence from it during the past year had been rendered doubly distressing by the death of his oldest son, then a promising youth at college.

Dr. Cutter had no taste and no time for political life ; and it is believed that he held no other civil office than a seat in the Convention which framed the Constitution of New-Hampshire. His opinions, however, on political questions were not wavering ; he was a whig before the revolution, as we have before stated, and when our own governments were established, he attached himself from the beginning to that party which formed and carried into operation the Constitution of the United States, and he adhered to it so long as it remained a distinct party.

About the year 1794 he admitted his third son William, a scion worthy of the parent stock, into partnership in his practice ; and gradually withdrawing himself from the laborious duties of his profession, as the infirmities of age came upon him, he finally resigned the whole into his hands. As a physician Dr. Cutter was intelligent, kind and attentive ; he remained in active practice more than fifty years, and no one ever possessed in a greater degree the affection and entire confidence of his patients. His scientific attainments were greater than those of most physicians of the times in which he was educated ; his literary acquisitions were very respectable, and his fondness for literary pursuits continued to afford employment and gratification until the very close of his protracted life. He was one of the original members, and for a long time President of the New-Hampshire Medical Society, and, without derogating from the merit of others, it may be said that for many

years he was at the head of the profession in this state. He received the honorary degree of M.D. from Harvard College, and was chosen an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical and Humane Societies.

He was about the middle height ; his manners were dignified, yet courteous, and his countenance was strongly marked with the moral energy, intelligence and benevolence, which formed the leading traits of his character. He united to a naturally fine temper, great vivacity and a social disposition ; his colloquial powers were remarkable ; he had a tenacious memory, and the diversified scenes of his long life he used to relate with a felicity of language and happiness of allusion, interspersed with frequent flashes of native humor, that made him an instructive and delightful companion.

Dr. Cutter's distinguishing intellectual powers, were quickness of perception, a retentive memory, an understanding which rarely erred in its decisions, and a will whose energy seldom failed of accomplishing its determinations. His prominent moral qualities, were an unbending integrity, a lofty sense of honor and a benevolence which came from the heart, and which reached the hearts of all around him. This "good man," as he was emphatically called by the reverend clergyman who preached his funeral sermon, died suddenly on the eighth of December, A.D. 1819, aged 85 years, in the midst of his family, breathing out his pure and kind spirit in a short ejaculatory prayer to the Being who created it, and who now received it willing to depart ; before the frosts of age had palsied his intellect, or lessened in the slightest degree the warm affections of his heart. The influence of his character, and the remembrance of his kindness and his virtues, yet remain, and will not soon perish amid that community, of which he was so long an active and valued member.

DANA, JAMES FREEMAN, M.D. was the oldest son of Luther Dana, Esq., and was born in Amherst, in the state of New-Hampshire, September the 23d, 1793. His mother's maiden name was Lucy Giddings. At the age of sixteen he entered the University of Cambridge, after completing his preparatory course of studies at Phillips Academy in Exeter, N. H. He passed through the usual course of instruction at the University, and received his first degree in 1813.

After his graduation he commenced the study of medicine under Dr. John Gorham, at that time Professor of Chemistry in Harvard University. In the year 1815, before he had completed his professional studies, he had become so well known as a practical chemist, that he was selected by the University to go to London as an agent for the purpose of procuring a new apparatus for the chemical department. While in England, where he remained several months, he prosecuted the study of chemistry in the laboratory of Accum, a celebrated operative chemist. In this situation so favorable to his views, he became familiarized with the details of practical chemistry, and laid the foundation for a dexterity in its manipulations, which has probably been seldom surpassed, and which afterward became one of his most striking excellences as a Lecturer. On his return from England he was employed in superintending the repairs of the laboratory, and in preparing it for the reception of the new apparatus, a task which he executed with great judgment and ingenuity ; and soon after was appointed assistant to the Professor of Chemistry, his former instructor. In 1817 he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine ; and in the autumn of the same year he was appointed Lecturer on Chemistry in Dartmouth College, and soon after married a daughter of the late President Webber of Harvard University.

With Dartmouth College he remained connected in the capacity of Lecturer on Chemistry until the year 1820, when he received the appointment of Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy in the same Institution. This office he held until the year 1826 ; and those who enjoyed the privilege of hearing his admirable lectures, will long remember with what ability and success he discharged its duties. In 1826 he was appointed one of the Board of Visitors of the Military Academy at West Point, and immediately after his return from the discharge of this duty he was chosen Professor of Chemistry in the University of New-York. This appointment, which opened a wide field for the exertion of his talents, he readily accepted, and removed with his family to the city in the autumn of the same year.

A severe calamity awaited him on his removal to New-York, in the untimely death, under circumstances peculiarly distressing, of his only child, a beautiful female in-

fant a few months old. Those who were acquainted with the strength of his attachments, and with the extreme tenderness of his affection for this interesting object, predicted the most serious consequences to his own health from this misfortune ; and a few months were sufficient to verify the prediction. Under the pressure of a calamity, which, with feelings such as his, was almost the greatest which could have befallen him, he made extraordinary exertions to support his spirits. But the shock in its consequences was probably fatal to him. He submitted with calm resignation to a blow, which destroyed in a moment his most cherished and delightful hopes ; but his appetite and health declined, and in April, 1827, about six months after his removal to New-York, he sunk under an attack of erysipelas, at the early age of thirty-three, and when just entering upon an extended sphere of usefulness and honor.

Professor Dana's taste led him at an early period to the cultivation of the natural sciences, particularly chemistry, in which he afterward attained so high a degree of excellence, mineralogy, entomology, and botany. To these pursuits he gave much of his leisure time when in college ; and to those who were acquainted with the character of his mind and the decided tendency of his genius, it must be a source of regret, that much of his time when in college, was necessarily devoted to subjects wholly uncongenial to his taste. He affords one instance among many others of distinguished talents, to the cultivation of which the system of study established in our colleges is wholly unsuitable. He had one characteristic of genius in an eminent degree, a decided and almost exclusive taste for studies of a particular class ; and these subjects are precisely those to which least attention has been usually paid in our higher seminaries of learning, and which, indeed, until lately, seem scarcely to have fallen within the scope of a college education. To a mind like his, remarkably active, inquisitive and observing, the subjects of philology, metaphysics and abstract mathematics, which constitute so large a portion of the studies enjoined at our colleges, possessed no attractions ; and however erroneous an estimate he may have formed of the general importance of these studies, it is certain that to him they possessed little value ; and a reluctant attention to them exacted by the laws of the university, must be regretted as a sacrifice of talent, perhaps una-

voidable, to the spirit of system. In the character of his mind one striking feature was a disposition to convert its acquisitions to practical purposes ; to estimate the value of scientific pursuits chiefly by their susceptibility of this application ; and, as a natural consequence, to undervalue those speculations which lead to no practical results. His mind was fertile in those analogies which suggest the means of accomplishing any practical effect in science or the arts ; and hence he was even from childhood distinguished by his mechanical ingenuity. His perceptions were remarkably keen and discriminating, and his talent for observation of external objects, of their distinguishing qualities, their analogies, and of the slightest shades of difference between them, was perhaps seldom surpassed. This talent, which was the foundation of his accurate and extensive knowledge of mineralogy, was frequently illustrated in a very amusing manner by the facility with which he would seize upon and exhibit, by an exquisite power of imitation, those undefined peculiarities of manner or appearance which distinguish individuals, and which are often very difficult to catch and to analyze. Connected with the same talent he possessed a keen perception of the beauties of the fine arts, particularly architecture and music. As a lecturer on chemistry he had few superiors. His excellence consisted in a thorough and profound knowledge of every part of the science ; great clearness of method and of illustration ; a manner interesting and impressive ; and extraordinary dexterity and success in his experiments.

But his greatest excellences were those which leave no memorial of themselves except in the cherished recollections of friendship. In these his character was rich. His heart was the abode of every kind and generous sentiment, and of every social virtue. The quickness and ardor of his feelings sometimes betrayed him into hasty and incorrect judgments of persons and things ; his resentments were sudden, though never deep nor lasting ; but the kindness and benevolence of his disposition were uniform and invariable, and exercised alike upon enemies and friends. In his professional practice this amiable trait was exemplified in his unwearied personal attention to the comfort of his patients. This most estimable part of his character was sustained and guided by great rectitude of moral principle, and a firm belief in the momentous truths of re-



vealed religion. With these graver excellences of character were united a disposition eminently social, and a talent for pleasantry and humor, which rendered his society irresistibly attractive. His personal appearance and his manners were extremely prepossessing, and perfectly expressive of the frankness and gentleness of his disposition. Few individuals have enjoyed the affections of a wider circle of personal friends.

Professor Dana died young ; but his talents and industry enabled him to accomplish enough for science to justify high expectations of future excellence, and to create deep regret at the premature fate by which these were destined to be disappointed.

His principal publications were the following, viz. " *Outlines of the Mineralogy and Geology of Boston and its vicinity*," a work of considerable merit, the joint production of himself and his brother Dr. Samuel L. Dana, published in 1818. " *Epitome of Chemical Philosophy*," published in 1825, while he was Professor of Chemistry in Dartmouth College. This is a work of no ordinary merit ; though designed merely as a text book for the use of students while attending lectures on chemistry. It exhibits a condensed view of the philosophy of chemistry, with a reference to all the important facts of the science, and to the principal recent sources of information, well arranged and written in a style of great clearness and purity. It is evidently the result of much research, and in one respect may be proposed as a model for elementary treatises on scientific subjects. He exhibits the principal facts and doctrines of chemistry in a clear but concise and scientific manner, stripped of all unnecessary matter, and not diluted by diffuse and tedious commentary. A very interesting " *Report on a singular Disease of Horned Cattle in the town of Burton, New-Hampshire*," the causes of which he was appointed to investigate by the New-Hampshire Medical Society, and which he traced with great probability to the presence of muriate of lime in the waters of that town.

Besides these publications he contributed several papers to the *American Journal of Science*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and the *Annals of the Lyceum of Natural History of New-York*, some of them of very considerable merit, and some of which have been reprinted in Europe. The principal of these are the following. " *An Account*

of the Grand Monadnock Mountain of New-Hampshire" ; an elaborate " Account of Iodine" ; " On a new form of the Electrical Battery" ; " Chemical Examination of the Berries of the Myrica Cerifera, or Wax Myrtle" ; " On the Effect of Vapor or Flame" ; " On the Existence of Cantharidin in the Lytta Vittata, or Potatofly" ; " Chemical Examination of some Animal Products" ; " Notices on the connexion of Electricity, Heat and Magnetism, the preparation of Euchlorine Gas, &c." ; " Account of a Galvanic Magnetic Apparatus" ; " On the Theory of the Action of the Deutoxide of Azote, or Nitrous Gas, in Eudiometry" ; " On the Ignition of Platinum" ; " Remarks on Mr. Patten's Air Pump" ; " Remarks on the common Method of detecting Cobalt" ; " Additional Remarks on Mr. Patten's Air Pump" ; " Analysis of the Copper Ore of Franconia in New-Hampshire," &c. published after his death.

In 1815, while a medical student, Dr. Dana received the Boylston medical prize for a Dissertation on the Tests of Arsenic, and on his passage home from Europe he wrote a Dissertation on the Composition of the Oxymuriatic Gas, to which the Boylston premium was assigned in 1816.

DORSEY, JOHN SYNG, M. D. Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 23d, 1783. In early life he received an excellent elementary and classical education at a school in Philadelphia of the society of Friends, then in high repute, and here manifested the same vivacity of genius and quickness in learning with the mild and gracious dispositions, for which he was subsequently so conspicuous. At the age of fifteen years he entered the office of his relative, the celebrated Dr. Physick. Medicine he cultivated with unusual ardor, and so successfully that, though by far the most juvenile member of the class, he had no superior in the estimation either of his teacher or fellow students. Of the force of his application and its results, a conception may be formed when it is told that, while still very much within his minority, he was fully prepared for the highest medical honors of the university. In the spring of 1802, then in his nineteenth year, he was graduated as a Doctor in medicine, having previously defended with ability an Inaugural Dissertation " On the Powers of the Gastric Liquor as a Solvent of the

Urinary Calculi." This, says his biographer, exhibits some original views, illustrated and maintained by a set of pertinent and well conducted experiments.

Not long after receiving his degree the yellow fever re-appeared in the city, and prevailed so widely that a hospital was opened for the accommodation exclusively of the sick with this disease, to which he was appointed resident physician. So great was the value attached to his services, that it is difficult to speak too highly of the manner in which he discharged the duties of this office of hazardous benevolence. Nor did he neglect the vast opportunities which his situation afforded of investigating the disease, and happily by his extensive dissections elucidated some of the more intricate parts of its pathology, and aided in the establishment of a better system of practice. It may be safely affirmed that no one was more correctly informed on the subject of this epidemic, and not a little which has appeared under the authority of other names, was derived from his observations and researches. At the close of the same season he proceeded to Europe for the purpose of improving his medical knowledge, and liberalizing his views by a wider survey of the world. During his absence he divided his time between the English and French metropolis, and diligently availed himself of the immense advantages, which in these respects each city affords. That his talents and acquisitions were duly appreciated abroad we have ample evidence in the attention which was paid him, and in the very flattering notices he has since received in several foreign publications. In December, 1804, he returned home and immediately entered on the practice of his profession. The reputation he brought with him, his amiable temper and popular manners, his fidelity and attention, speedily introduced him into a large share of business. From this period professional honors were heaped on him with profusion. He was appointed surgeon to the dispensary, the alms-house and hospitals, and in all our medical associations he held some elevated office. But there was reserved for him a still higher and more dignified station. In 1807 he was elected adjunct Professor of Surgery, in which office he continued till he was raised to the chair of Anatomy by the lamented death of the venerable Dr. Wistar.

Considering himself now placed for the first time in the proper sphere for the exercise of his talents and the grati-

fication of a generous ambition, the appointment gave him much delight, and with ample preparation he opened the session by one of the finest exhibitions of eloquence ever heard in these walls. But here his bright and prosperous career ended, and the expectations of success thus created, were not permitted to be realized. Elevated to a position above which he could hardly ascend, and surrounded by all that we most value, Providence seems to have selected him as an instance to teach a salutary lesson of the shortness of life, the insignificance of things transitory, and the importance of that eternity which absorbs all being and all time. On the evening of the same day that he pronounced his introductory lecture, and while the praises of it still resounded, he was attacked with a fever of such vehemence that in one short week it closed his existence, leaving to us only his enviable name and inestimable example. He died November, 1818, aged 35 years.

Dorsey was a man of no ordinary powers, and deservedly occupied a large space in the public eye. Naturally acute, vigorous and discriminative, his mind was highly improved by education, and embellished by taste. Every department of medicine he had cultivated assiduously : but it was surgery for which he evinced a decided predilection, and in which he had the greatest proficiency. As a science he thoroughly studied it, and by the unequalled advantages he enjoyed, had become no less expert in the practice. Excepting one illustrious character, who has no rival, he was indisputably the most accomplished surgeon of our country, and this high praise is conceded to him on account of the number, the variety, the difficulty of his operations, and the skill, dexterity and boldness, with which they were performed. So many, indeed, were his qualifications that, under almost any circumstances, he must have attained excellence in this province of his profession. Clear in his views, and of sound judgment, he had also great mechanical ingenuity, delicacy of touch, and promptness of decision ; and hence, in conducting an operation, however new or complex, there was a tone and firmness of manner which always inspired confidence and insured success. As a teacher of medicine, his merits were great and universally acknowledged. Early employed in this field of exertion, his mind became perfectly disciplined, and it developed without faltering or embarrassment the various subjects to which it was directed. It was this

quickness of apprehension, and facility of execution, which caused him constantly to be resorted to in seasons of emergency, to supply the deficiencies produced by casualties in the school. We have seen him, on these occasions, in the same day illustrate the operations of surgery, and deliver the details of the *materia medica*, demonstrate the minutiae of anatomical structure, and expound the laws of the animal economy. Talent so flexible, and knowledge thus diversified, have rarely been concentrated in one individual, and still more rarely exhibited with such imposing effect. Never failing in whatever he engaged to teach, it was, however, in the demonstrative branches of medicine he particularly excelled. He was fitted for the undertaking not less by nature than study. To exactness of knowledge, which he owed to a retentive memory, corroborated by the habit of intense application in early life, he added a fluent elocution, an entire self possession, and a methodical and luminous mode of exposition.

But in no situation did he appear to greater advantage than in the discussions of our Medical Society. Constituted of many of the more active, intelligent and enterprising of the practitioners of the city and of the members of the medical class, this institution is admirably adapted for the display of talent and the reciprocation of professional information. As a debater he never had a superior among us. The style of his speaking was peculiar and distinctive. Destitute of rhetorical pretensions, it had the character of warm and elevated conversation, and while it was sufficiently strong to cope with the most powerful, it was intelligible by its simplicity to the meanest capacity. Equally adroit in attack or defence, the resources he exhibited in these contests, and especially when pressed by the weight of an adversary, were surprising, and often drew forth strong expressions of admiration and applause. It has been objected to his speaking, that though always ingenious and forcible, it was occasionally loose and desultory. But this defect was visible only in those extempore effusions which escaped from him without premeditation or reflection, and proceeded in a great measure from the fecundity of his genius, and the copiousness of his matter. Teeming with ideas and exuberant in facts, he could not always preserve his arrangement, nor the chain of his reasoning, perspicuous and consecutive. As a medical writer he is certainly entitled to be placed among the most

prominent we have produced. He contributed many valuable papers to the periodical journals, and published the "Elements of Surgery" in two large octavo volumes, which is probably the very best work on the subject extant. Composed in a plain and unornamented style, it embraces within a narrow compass a digest of surgery, with all the recent improvements it has received in Europe and this country. Dedicated as he was to his profession, he still did not neglect elegant literature nor the liberal arts ; on the contrary, he cultivated them with care, and found in the intervals of his leisure, that they smoothed the ruggedness of his severer studies, and afforded a refuge from the care and irritation of business.

Extraordinary as were the powers of his mind, they did not surpass the qualities of his heart. What was said by Burke of Fox, "that he was born to be beloved," is strikingly applicable to our friend. As much as any man whom I ever knew, was he calculated to win attachments and disarm enmities. Cordial, warm, generous, practising all the courtesies, and extending every kindness in his intercourse with society, it was impossible to approach him without being conciliated, and further acquaintance served only to confirm the agreeable prepossessions. Frank and unreserved, there was nothing in his deportment to inspire awe, or excite doubt or suspicion of his sincerity. No one, such was his habitual graciousness, however humble was thrown at a distance, or rendered uncomfortable in his presence. Easy, cheerful and good humoured, he diffused these pleasant feelings around him, and enlivened every scene into which he entered. Mixing much in the circles of fashion, his manners, naturally urbane, were highly polished, and his conversation, so various was his intelligence and such the pliancy of his address, would amuse the gay, and instruct the illiterate, entertain the learned, and delight the grave and pious. Yet, with this versatility of genius and diversity of pursuits, he overlooked no important concern, nor slighted any material duty. The review already presented sufficiently shows how attentive he was to his leading occupation, and its collateral engagements. Endowed with that peculiar constitution of character which readily accommodates itself to circumstances, he could in the most remarkable degree intermix amusement and business without any serious encroachment,

and preserve to a great extent undisturbed the order of systematized life.

As he lived, so he died ; never shall I forget the truly impressive scene. When by his peremptory command the awful communication was made of his irrecoverable state, he was composed, firm and resolute, confiding in the mercy, and resigned to the will of Heaven. As a Christian, practising with more than ordinary punctuality the duties of his religion, death had to him few terrors. Emphatically and with fervor did he reiterate the expression of his confidence in the atonement of his Savior, and the comfort which he derived from this source. What else indeed can sustain us at such a crisis ? An audacious spirit, roused by the pomp and pride of war or a sense of duty or honor, will in the field affront death, and brave its consequences. But even he, in the gloomy chamber, and under the anguish of disease, where no such adventitious impulse exists, without this only support, will shudder at the idea of dissolution, and the destinies of eternity.—*Professor Chapman's Eulogium delivered before the Medical Class, 1st March, 1819 ; See Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences, Vol. I.*

DOUGLASS, WILLIAM, M. D. was a native of Scotland, who came to America when a young man, about the year 1716. He fixed himself in the north part of Boston, and soon became conspicuous for his abilities as a physician, and for his general intelligence and enterprise. He was a man of great learning, but deficient in judgment, prudence and correct taste ; yet he assumed the task of animadverting upon the actions and characters of others, filling the newspapers with political essays fraught with sarcastic remarks upon the magistrates, the clergy, the physicians, and the people of New-England.

When Dr. Cotton Mather communicated to him the success of Timoni of Constantinople in inoculating for the smallpox, he treated the account with contempt though recorded in the Transactions of the Royal Society of London. When Dr. Boylston, in the year 1721, introduced the practice in Boston and met with the greatest success, he still raved against Timoni, Mather and Boylston. He published several tracts on the subject, in which he attacked with intemperate language, the clergymen, the physicians, and all who encouraged the practice of inoculation, which he held to be a presumptuous exposure to

disease and death. His prejudices were very strong, and such was the obstinacy of his temper, that he would never retract his errors, however palpable or unjust. His notions of religion were very loose and unsettled.

His publications were, *The Inoculation of the Smallpox as practised in Boston*, 1722 ; *The Abuses and Scandals of some late Pamphlets in Favor of Inoculation*, 1722 ; *A Practical Essay concerning the Smallpox, containing the History, &c.* 1730 ; *Practical History of a New Eruptive Miliary Fever, with Angina Ulcusculosa, which prevailed in Boston in 1735 and 1736.* This publication may be considered a valuable practical essay on angina maligna, in which are detailed the characteristics of the disease and the method best adapted to its treatment. Some physicians about that period adopted the plan of bleeding from the vein under the tongue, which proved extremely fatal ; and Douglass says, " most of those who died of the physician, died by immoderate evacuations." He published a summary, historical and political, of the first planting, progressive improvements, and present state of the British settlements in North America ; the first volume appeared in 1748, and the second in 1753. In this work he is said to be often incorrect in point of fact. It can only be considered as a strange medley of affairs relating to his family, his private squabbles, and public transactions, without judgment or sound discretion. He would not take pains to arrange his materials, nor to inform himself of particular facts.

He was so opinionated that he never would correct his mistakes. When Cape Breton was taken, it frustrated many of his printed declarations. He had ridiculed the expedition because it was a measure of governor Shirley's administration, and called that place the *Dunkirk*, which such forces would never dare to assail. But though the plan succeeded, it did not make any difference in his views. Instead of having his pride wounded, he, porcupine like, wrapped himself in his own down, and darted his quills at others. He said he was right in his conjectures, but fortune would always wait upon blunderers and quacks ! Douglass was a mathematician ; in 1743, 44, he published an *Almanac*, which was useful at the time, and is now valuable for its list of chronological events, and also the account of all the sovereigns of Europe and their families. It was called "*Mercurius Novanglicanus*," by William



Nadir, S. X. Q. A town in the county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, of which he was a proprietor and benefactor, bears the name of Douglass. He died October 21st, 1752.—*Elliot's and Allen's Biography.*

DYCKMAN, JACOB, M. D., was born of highly respectable parentage at Yonkers, Westchester county, in the state of New York, on the first of December, 1788. His early years, spent as they were in the retirement and obscurity of the country, furnish no remarkable incidents for the narrative of the biographer. Yet it can hardly be supposed that a mind such as his did not develop some prominent feature, even in the days of his childhood; and especially as he was always the subject of praise among his acquaintance, and of ambitious hope among his friends. Without possessing that vivacity of spirits, or that sprightliness of remark, which are frequently the indications of infant genius, there is said to have been something peculiar in his deportment, and pointed in his conversation, which, at a very early period, excited in the bosoms of his friends a hope that he was destined to be no ordinary man. Accordingly he was sent to the city to be prepared for his entrance into college. After receiving a very complete and solid preparation at a grammar school, he was admitted into Columbia College in the year 1806. Although he did not possess that flippancy which often passes for brilliancy of parts, and obtains for a young man a rank above his fellows who are in reality possessed of more capacity and solidity of mind, he maintained, during the whole period of his collegiate studies, a highly respectable station in his class. There was not in him any of that frivolity of character which leads young men to engage in the fashionable amusements of life; and he was too strongly fortified by principle to be led into dissipation. It is no wonder, then, that he should surpass many of his collegiate associates, who trifled away the time which he devoted to study, in the pursuits of pleasure or the haunts of dissipation. He was graduated in the year 1810, after passing through all the classes of that excellent institution.

Shortly after his graduation in the arts, he commenced the study of medicine under the pupilage of Dr. Hosack. He was a pattern of diligence in his studies, of propriety in his deportment in the office, and an example in all respects worthy of imitation. From the character he

then held, every one augured his future usefulness and distinction. In the spring of 1813 he received the honors of the doctorate, in one of the early classes that were graduated in the newly organized College of Physicians and Surgeons. On his public examination he presented and defended an Inaugural Thesis on the Pathology of the Human Fluids ; a production which, afterwards revised and enlarged, laid the foundation of his professional fame, and is destined to be remembered as a work of standard excellence on the subject of which it treats.

Immediately after his graduation he was appointed one of the Physicians of the City Dispensary, a situation which, at that time, was not to be obtained by the influence of family connexions, or by acquiescence in a contracted and mercenary policy. Dr. Dyckman was then an obscure young man, without friends to urge his claims, or to exert their influence in his behalf. He continued to discharge the arduous duties of this charity for several years ; and at last resigned his situation, partly, as he told me, through disgust at the conduct which he witnessed in the institution, and partly in consequence of increased demands upon his time by the duties of a more important office.

In the year 1819 Dr. Dyckman was appointed the Surgeon of the New-York Alms House. This charity, although extensive in its character, presents, in consequence of its location beyond the limits of the city, and the peculiar description of the objects of its bounty, a very limited field for the cultivation and display of surgical dexterity. During Dr. Dyckman's attendance, however, several great and important cases occurred in the institution, which gave him an opportunity of exhibiting that versatility of talent, which can familiarize itself to the knife without an exclusive attention to operative surgery. From the judgment and deliberation with which he conducted his operations, and the prudent dexterity which he exhibited in their performance, there is good reason to believe, that when experience had given him a necessary confidence, and matured the dexterous talent he possessed, he would have become a highly respectable and skilful surgeon.

In the year 1819 he was commissioned by the Board of Health of New-York to proceed to Philadelphia, for the purpose of investigating the nature and origin of a pestilential fever which prevailed in a section of that city.

He discharged this important duty with so much manly independence, so much professional discretion, and so much satisfaction to the public, that he was sent upon a similar mission to Philadelphia in the succeeding year. In the year 1821 he was elected recording secretary of the New-York Literary and Philosophical Society, an office which he held to the day of his death, with universal satisfaction to the members of that body. Nothing can show in a more convincing manner the estimation in which he was held by that learned society, than the fact, that a special committee has, by their unanimous resolution, been appointed to prepare a biographical memoir of him in the next volume of their transactions. The respectability of the committee charged with this duty, is an additional honor to his memory. In the year 1821 Dr. Dyckman was appointed to the office of Health Commissioner, and in 1822, in spite of the intrigues which were used for a host of others, he was appointed by the honorable regents of the university, a trustee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. By his appointment as Health Commissioner, he became, *ex officio*, a member of the Board of Health. It is principally in seasons of pestilence that a member of that body has any opportunity of signaling himself as a public officer. No sooner had the epidemic which lately desolated the fairest portion of our city, made its appearance, than the profession, the board, and the public, looked to Dr. Dyckman as their principal counsellor. His medical associate in the commission of health, by an unfortunate inadvertence which the most experienced might have committed, or, perhaps, through the mischievous insinuations of jealousy and malice, lost, in a great measure, the confidence of the public.\* Dr. Dyckman at this time was laboring under a severe indisposition; yet, feeling the importance of his station, and animated by a sense of duty, he scorned to evade by flight the responsibilities and the dangers of his office. Contrary to the remonstrances of his friends, he determined to remain in the city, and for some weeks spent his time alternately in his bed and at the sittings of the Board of Health. His feeble constitution, already undermined by a strong predisposition to pulmonary disease, could not support the anxieties of his mind, and his unusual bodily

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\* See Townsend on the Yellow Fever of New-York, in 1822.

exertions at this period of terror and dismay. He was shortly compelled to request permission of the Board to retire into the country to recruit his health. He proceeded to the residence of his father, at King's Bridge—never to return. After lingering for several weeks, exhausted by the hectic and the cough of consumption, he died on Thursday, the 5th of December, 1822, with the composure and the triumph of a christian.

It is impossible to contemplate the character of Dr. Dyckman, without feelings of respect, and even emotions of admiration.

As a physician, he was versed in the scientific departments of his profession, not contenting himself with mere elementary knowledge, but ambitious of becoming familiar with the great masters of the art. He delighted in his books, and justly merited the character of a well-read physician. But he was not a mere speculative man, versed in the doctrines of the schools, and unskilled in their practical application. It was in his admirable practical sagacity that his great merit consisted.

The success of his practice is the best eulogy that can be pronounced upon his professional skill. I have often heard him speak of it as one of the most delightful contemplations of his life, (and indeed have had constant opportunities of verifying his assertions by personal knowledge,) that of the numerous cases of disease which presented themselves in the practice of the Dispensary, where a physician necessarily prescribes under many disadvantages, he lost so very few patients. It is no inconclusive evidence of a physician's skill, that he should not lose more than two or three patients out of the hundreds that annually fall under his care, whose constitutions are broken down by the accumulated miseries of poverty and complicated disease, and who cannot procure even those comforts of life which are indispensable to the efficient operation of medicines.

But Dr. Dyckman was not the mere physician. He possessed a noble expansion of soul, which would not permit him to confine himself to the routine of practice. He has justly attained no humble character as an author. I claim not for him, indeed, the veneration that is due to exalted genius, but the more enviable praise of being a useful and a practical writer. His style was by no means splendid or ambitious, but neat, perspicuous and simple.

His first literary effort, "An Inaugural Dissertation on the Pathology of the Human Fluids," would have done honor to the pen of an older and more experienced writer. It is a defence of the humoral pathology in the modified form in which it is taught, and has for years been taught, by the distinguished Professor of the Practice of Physic in this University. Dr. Dyckman, as I have before said, was his pupil ; and fired with the zeal of his preceptor, he boldly stepped forward in the vindication of truth, at a time when it could only be expected to draw down upon him the ridicule and the condemnation of the faculty. The doctrine is defended, however, with acknowledged dexterity ; and explained with a readiness and ingenuity which show him to have been familiar with his subject. In the judgment of the avowed opponents of the theory it espouses, it displays more recondite research, more dexterity of statement, more ingenuity of argument, more plausibility of style and manner, than almost any other production of the kind.\*

Dr. Dyckman's improved edition of Duncan's Dispensatory, published in the year 1818, is by far the best and most useful work upon that subject. His monthly reports of the diseases occurring in the City Dispensary, published originally in the Monthly Magazine, and afterwards in the Literary Journal, evince a talent for close observation, and a judgment in recording facts, which would not dishonor the masterly reports of Drs. Willan and Bateman.

Several fugitive productions of his pen are preserved in the periodical journals of our country ; the most remarkable of which are, an Essay upon Adipocire, published in the Transactions of the New-York Lyceum of Natural History ; and an anomalous case of surgery which fell under his care.†

He had long had in contemplation a work upon the vegetable Materia Medica of the United States, and had made very considerable progress in the collection of materials towards it. He, however, had resolved that it should be, as it ought to be, the labor of years. Man proposes, but God disposes. Death suddenly interrupted his labors, and leaves us another instance of the uncertainty of human plans, and the vanity of human hopes. In contemplating

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\* See Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences, vol. iv. p.370.

† See Medical and Physical Journal of New-York.

the character of Dr. Dyckman as a literary man, and as an author, it is proper to notice his connexion as one of the editors of the New-York Medical and Physical Journal. He zealously entered into the enlightened and lofty views of the spirited gentlemen who projected this work ; and was proud to associate his name as an editor with the names of men, who, though only commencing life, had justly acquired a character for talents, and a literary reputation, of which veteran cultivators of science might have been ambitious.

Respectable as he was as a professional and literary man, it is in his personal and private character that he appears to highest advantage. Time would fail me to speak of all the virtues of this estimable character ; and to tell you of his filial affection, and of his excellence in the relations of a brother and a friend. O ! there was a tenderness in his friendship, which I have a thousand times experienced, but which I would in vain endeavor to describe. Hear the touching language of bereaved affection bearing testimony to his worth : " All who were acquainted with the deceased, will delight to dwell on the amenity of his disposition, and the blameless tenor of his life. Remarkably free from the malignant passions, his heart was the seat of generous feelings, and was ever alive to the sensibilities of humanity. In every sphere in which he moved, his worth was confessed ; and in every situation to which private confidence or public favor called him, his zeal and assiduity were incessant and unwearied. He has left behind him many connected by the endearments of friendship : none who can deny the benevolence of his heart, or the purity of his character."\*

Dr. Dyckman, in the days of his health, did not view religion as the great and important subject in which every man has a personal concern superior to every other interest. So far as a becoming respect for it was concerned, he was unexceptionable ; and in the duties of morality generally, I believe he was as sincere, as conscientious, and as irreproachable as any man can be without the sanctifying influence of religion. He never made any religious profession, though he was often heard to express a partial-

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\* New-York Medical and Physical Journal. vol. i. p. 523. To this editorial obituary notice of Dr. Dyckman, marked by a beauty of style, a loftiness of sentiment, and a tenderness of feeling, highly creditable to the work, I am indebted for several particulars in the life of our friend.

ity for the Episcopal Church. His fault on this great subject was, that he considered morality as the sum and substance of religion : and conscious of an irreproachable character on that score, he rested contented here. But in his last days he obtained a truer view of the subject. He was enabled to discover that the high and holy law of God is the required standard of morality, and not our own imperfect and often erroneous conceptions of duty.

The foregoing is an abridged tribute to the memory of Dr. D. by Henry W. Ducachet, M.D., delivered at the desire of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of New York.

ELIOT, DR. JARED, a clerical physician, was the son of the Rev. Joseph Eliot, of Guilford, in Connecticut, and grandson of the Rev. Joseph Eliot, of Roxbury, Mass. the celebrated Indian apostle. He was born Nov. 7th, 1685, and died April 22d, 1763. He was one of the earliest students of Yale College, and received his bachelor's degree in 1706. From 1730 to 1762 he was one of the corporation of that institution ; and from 1709 to his death, was the minister to the first ecclesiastical society of Killingworth, in Connecticut. He was unquestionably the first physician of his day in Connecticut, and was the last clerical physician of eminence, probably, in New England. He was an excellent botanist, and was equally distinguished as a scientific and practical agriculturalist. He introduced the white mulberry into Connecticut, and with it the silk worm, and published a treatise upon the subject. He was also a mineralogist, and in 1761 received from a society in London a gold medal, as a premium for his discovery of a process of extracting iron from black sand. He was the personal friend and correspondent of Bishop Berkely and Dr. Franklin, and of several other philosophical characters both in Europe and America. He was, however, in his life time, more known by the public as a physician, and was very eminent for his judgment and skill in the management of chronic complaints. In these he appears to have been more extensively consulted, than any other physician in New England, frequently visiting every county of Connecticut, and being often called to Boston and Newport. He was a good linguist, and from the libraries left by him and his contemporaries it is evident, that he was in the habit of reading and studying Hippocrates, Celsus, Galen, Aretæus, &c. in the originals. Some very humorous anecdotes are still related, which

serve to show that he managed melancholics and maniacs with great ingenuity and success. All of Dr. E.'s science and philosophy were of the practical kind, and adapted to the improvement of his infant country. He published "agricultural essays," and devised various plans for draining swamps in the interior, and also for reclaiming marshes from the sea. He was very industrious and methodical, and was peculiarly careful that whatever he undertook, should be well executed. It is difficult to conceive how one could be successful in such a variety of pursuits, as those in which he was engaged; for he seldom if ever failed in any important undertaking. He possessed a very large estate in land, which consisted of farms in different sections of the state, or rather colony. These were generally better cultivated, and furnished more profits, than those of his neighbors. Amidst all his avocations, he was distinguished for his piety and talents as a clergyman. He published several sermons, and so conscientious was he in the discharge of his duties as a minister, that he always so contrived his journeys, as to be, if possible, with his people every Sunday, and for forty successive years in the course of his ministry, he never omitted preaching either at home or abroad on the Lord's day. Dr. E. resided on the main road from New-York to Boston, and was always visited by Dr. Franklin, when he was journeying to his native town, as well as by most of the literary and religious characters of his day, who always met with a very affectionate reception in his hospitable mansion. He was distinguished for his charities, and many of his medical services were performed gratuitously.

It is mentioned of him that, though an ardent friend of his country, and a great patron of improvements, and though as a clergyman and philosopher, a physician, and a trustee of Yale College, his influence with the public was very great, and his opinions and advice much esteemed, yet he always avoided interfering, or taking an active part, in any of the purely political struggles of his day. Such men as Eliot are not only highly useful and honorable to the age they live in, but are a blessing to future generations. They give a spring to the human intellect, and excite a spirit of inquiry, experiment and observation, and thus diffuse a light among their contemporaries, which has an influence upon remote posterity. See *Eliot's Biographical Dictionary*.—*Medical Intelligencer*.



**EVANS, DR. CADWALLADER**, was a descendant from one of the many respectable families who emigrated from Wales to Pennsylvania upon the settlement of the Province, and resided in Philadelphia county. He was one of the first pupils of Dr. Thomas Bond, and sailed with a view of finishing his medical education at Edinburgh. But as the war was then prevailing between Spain and France and England, the vessel was taken by a Spanish privateer and carried into Hayti, where he was attacked by a severe fever, from which he happily recovered. After some time he was permitted to sail for Jamaica, where he resolved to enter into professional practice for a short period ; but finding the climate disagree with his constitution, he sailed for England after a residence of two or three years. After a year spent at Edinburgh, and a short time at London, he returned to Philadelphia and commenced practice, in which he continued about twenty years, and died in 1773, aged 57. He was long one of the physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital, and highly esteemed as a physician and a man.

Dr. Evans published, when a student, a case of convulsions which occurred in a girl about fourteen years of age, and were repeated forty times in twenty-four hours. After an intermission of a month or two, they would return. Sometimes she was affected by violent cramps in different parts of her body : at others with the whole train of hysteric symptoms. She continued to be thus afflicted for ten years, when in 1752 she was perfectly cured by electricity kindly administered by the scientific hands of Dr. Franklin. She received four severe shocks mornings and evenings, and was cured in two weeks of the fits : but the cramp continued somewhat longer. The lady was the sister of Dr. Evans, and the cure was perfect and permanent. Her mind was not affected, as is common, by the disease ; she possessed uncommon powers of reasoning, and was distinguished for the sprightliness of her wit, and the charms of her conversation. She lived to the age of 79 years.

**FLAGG, DR. JOHN, M.M.S.S.** was son of the Rev. Ebenezer Flagg, the first minister of Chester in New-Hampshire. He was graduated at Harvard University in 1761, and studied medicine under the direction of Dr. Osgood of Andover. He commenced practice at Woburn, but in 1769 removed to Lynn, where he enjoyed the full

confidence of his fellow citizens, and acquired a high standing in his profession.

When, in 1775, the dark cloud overspread our political hemisphere, Dr. Flagg was prepared to unite in the strong measures of resistance against every encroachment upon the rights and freedom of his country. He was an active and useful member of the committee of safety, and contributed largely to the promotion of the military preparations to meet the exigences which soon after happened. From a native modesty, he declined any appointment in the councils of the state, but was prevailed upon to accept the commission of Lieutenant Colonel of Militia under the venerable Col. Timothy Pickering, which, however, he soon after resigned, that he might devote his whole attention to the practice of medicine, which he preferred to military pursuits.

He was elected a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society immediately after its incorporation, when the number of fellows was restricted to seventy in the whole Commonwealth. He held a commission of Justice of the Peace before the revolution and after the adoption of our state constitution, till his death. The fatigues of an extensive circle of practice and the exposures incident to a professional life, impaired his constitution, and he fell a victim to pulmonary consumption, May 27th, 1793, in the 50th year of his age.

FULLER, DR. SAMUEL, one of the memorable planters of Plymouth, who came over with the first settlers in 1620. He was the first regularly educated physician that visited New England. He was a deacon of the Rev. John Robinson's church, with Mr. Carver, who was afterwards governor of the plantation. His services were in very special request both for the souls and bodies of the people. Besides his duties in the church, which he was active in performing, he was eminently useful as a surgeon and physician.

Nor did he confine his benevolent offices to the inhabitants of New Plymouth and to the aboriginals of the country, but readily gave his assistance to the people of Naumkeak (Salem) and Charlestown, after Mr. Endicot came to that part of Massachusetts Bay. Several of the people died of "scurvy and other distempers," and many were subjected to diseases arising from unwholesome diet and want of proper accommodations. Having no physician

among themselves, it was fortunate for those planters that Plymouth could supply them with one so well qualified as Dr. Fuller, who visited them at the request of Governor Endicot, and met with great success in his practice. He visited Salem first in 1628, and again in 1629, on account of the sickness introduced there by the newly arrived ships. When he arrived at Plymouth from Salem, Governor Endicot wrote to Governor Bradford a letter of thanks, speaking highly in praise of the physician, and also expressing his hearty concurrence with their church at Plymouth, its form and discipline. From which it is evident that the conversation of Dr. Fuller had some effect upon his religious opinions, for there was a difference of sentiment before this interview, and a jealousy lest the Plymouth church should exercise a jurisdiction over the church in Salem. In a letter to Governor Bradford, June 28th, 1630, Dr Fuller says, "I have been to Matapan, (now Dorchester), and let some twenty of those people blood." What disease prevailed among those people that required the loss of blood in the warm season of June, we are unable to determine.

In his medical character, and for his christian virtues and unfeigned piety, Dr. Fuller was held in the highest estimation, and was resorted to as a father and wise counsellor during the perils of his day. He was finally one of several heads of families who died of a fever which prevailed in Plymouth in the summer of 1633, and was most deeply lamented by all the colonists.

GALE, DR. BENJAMIN, was born on Long-Island in 1715. When a child, his parents removed with him to Goshen, in the State of New-York. He studied medicine with the distinguished Dr. Jared Eliot, of Killingsworth, Connecticut, and afterwards married his daughter, and settled in that town.

Dr. Gale was author of a Dissertation on the Inoculation of the Smallpox in America about the year 1750, in which he advocated the utility of a course of mercury as a preparative to the disease. This production was quoted by Dr. Wilson Philip, and also by the celebrated Dr. Huxham, who in a letter published in January, 1765, says "the use of mercury and antimony in preparing persons for inoculation, will more fully appear by what the ingenious Dr. B. Gale, of Connecticut in New England, has communicated to me in his "Dissertation on the Inocula-

tion of the Smallpox in America": in which he says, "Before the use of mercury and antimony in preparing persons for inoculation, one of one hundred of the inoculated died ; but since, only one in eight hundred." According to Dr. Gale the use of mercury in the smallpox was first resorted to in the English American colonies in 1745, when it was employed with success by Dr. Thompson of Pennsylvania or Maryland, and Dr. Morison of Long-Island, in the Province of New-York.

Dr. Gale published some Essays in the Transactions of the Medical Society of New-Haven. His reputation for medicine and other sciences was little, if at all, inferior to that of his father-in-law ; and he kept up the same scientific correspondence with distinguished foreigners, and the eminent men of his own country. Like Eliot, he was both a scientific and practical agriculturalist, and he received a medal from a society in England, for the invention of an improved *drill plough*. But he was unlike his predecessor in his attention to the politics of the day, as he took great interest in the events of the American revolution, and in those that passed during the formation of the Federal Constitution, and employed much of the latter part of his life in writing political essays for the newspapers of the time. It is believed that as a politician, he was not inferior to many of his contemporaries, and that his talents would have been much more serviceable to his country had he confined them to subjects more immediately connected with his profession. He was also an ingenious and speculative divine and a biblical critic, and wrote a Dissertation on the Prophecies. He is said to have been a good Greek scholar. He died in 1790.

GARDEN, ALEXANDER, M.D. F.R.S. born in Scotland about the year 1728, was the son of the Rev. A. Garden of Aberdeen. He received his first medical education under the celebrated Dr. John Gregory, and studied also twelve months in Edinburgh, having received his philosophical and clerical education in the University of Aberdeen. He arrived in South Carolina about the middle of the 18th century, and commenced the practice of physic in Prince William parish in connexion with Dr. Rose.

Here he began his botanical studies ; but having lost his health he was obliged to take a voyage to the northward for its recovery. In the year 1754 he went to New-York ; where a professorship in the college, recently form-

ed in that city was offered to him ; but he declined the acceptance of it. On his return he settled in Charleston, and continued to practise physic about thirty years. In this period he amassed a handsome fortune, being deservedly in very high esteem and extensively employed. He brought with him a hæmoptoic constitution, but the complaint was suspended during his residence in Carolina.

He was well acquainted with the Latin and Greek classics, understood the French and Italian languages, and was a considerable proficient in the knowledge of the belles lettres, in mathematics, philosophy, history and miscellaneous literature ; but his attention, when the duties of his profession permitted any relaxation, was chiefly directed to the study of natural history, and particularly to that branch of it which is called botany. Linnæus, with whom he corresponded in Latin, gave his name, *Gardenia*, to a most beautiful flowering shrub, and often mentioned him with applause. He was also highly esteemed by the literati throughout Europe, with several of whom he corresponded. About the year 1772 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. Shortly after his return to Europe in 1783 he was appointed one of its council, and afterwards one of its vice presidents. To extend his knowledge in natural history Dr. Garden accompanied James Glen, governor of South Carolina, in the year 1755, when he penetrated into the Indian country and formed a treaty with the Cherokees in their own mountains. In this expedition Dr. Garden discovered an earth, which upon a fair trial by the manufacturers at Worcester in Great Britain was deemed equal to the finest porcelain that was ever imported from India. Unfortunately no precise knowledge can now be had of the spot where this valuable earth was found. Hitherto no advantage has resulted from the discovery, though no doubt exists of its reality and importance.

On Dr. Garden's return to Europe his consumptive diathesis, which had been long suspended, began to show itself. He endeavored to parry its attacks by travelling. This answered a valuable purpose, but failed in its primary object. He found that wherever he went, his literary fame had preceded him and induced many to court his acquaintance. In France he was treated by men of science with the most pointed attention and hailed as a brother. He met with a similar reception in Switzerland,

and was particularly caressed by Lavater, the author of the elaborate work on Physiognomy. In the course of his travels he tried the effects of breathing his native air and of revisiting the haunts of his youth, hoping that the pleasing recollections of juvenile scenes would have a salutary influence in arresting the progress of his disease. He was received as a man who had done honor to his native land and extended its reputation as the soil of genius. He found that his venerable father, after reaching his 90th year, had lately died. Nought remained but to do honor to his memory. The son drew up a monumental inscription in elegant classical Latin, commemorative of the virtues of the father. This is shown to strangers as honorable to both, and is respectfully mentioned in the statistical account of the parish, edited by Sir John Sinclair.

Dr. G. was highly pleased with the attentions he everywhere received in his travels, but all this time his disorder was advancing. Having made every exertion to preserve his life he finally made up his mind to his situation, resolved to travel no more and to meet his approaching fate in the bosom of his family. He accordingly settled at London, and soon after expired in that city in the year 1792. The high reputation for literature which he attained, reflected honor both on his native and adopted country. In the first a good foundation was laid, especially in classical learning ; in the latter the superstructure was raised. He came young to Carolina, and was then barely initiated in the favorite studies in which he particularly excelled. He acquired most of his botanical knowledge in the woods of Carolina. He was fond of good company, and particularly of refined female society, and to it he devoted a considerable portion of his time ; but enough was reserved for mental improvement. He introduced into medical use the *spigelia marilandica* or Carolina pinkroot, a valuable vermifuge, and published in 1764 an account of its medical properties and gave a botanical description of the plant.—*New-York Medical Repository*, Vol. 5th ; also, *Linnaean Correspondence* by Sir J. E. Smith.

GARDINER, DR. SYLVESTER, was born in the year 1717, in Narragansett, in the colony of Rhode Island, on an extensive estate purchased by his grandfather, who with a younger brother emigrated from England at an early period of the settlement of the country. In early youth it was observed that the bent of his genius led him

to traverse the fields and meadows for the purpose of botanical discoveries, and the investigation of the medicinal properties of plants; and manifesting a predilection for the medical profession, he was at the age of fourteen years put under the tuition of Dr. Gibbin, an English physician residing in Boston.

In process of time, however, his ardent thirst for knowledge painted to his imagination the more ample advantages to be enjoyed in Europe for the accomplishment of his education. Being indulged in his inclination by his parents, he repaired to France and devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of medicine and surgery in the various hospitals at Paris. After a residence of four years in that city he visited England, where he continued two years engaged in the same pursuit, when he returned to his native country and united himself in marriage with the daughter of Dr. Gibbin, to whom he was previously engaged. Still, however, his insatiate mind prompted him to a further prosecution of knowledge in the various branches of science, especially that of optics. With this view he embarked a second time for France, where he devoted one or two years more to his favorite studies.

Thus accomplished and abundantly qualified for the duties of his profession, Dr. Gardiner commenced his career of practice in the town of Boston, where uncommon success, wealth and fame awaited him in anticipation. For his skill in the several branches of medicine, operative surgery and obstetrics, he became eminently distinguished, and on occasions of capital operations it was not uncommon for him to receive calls at the distance of fifty or sixty miles. Being amply qualified as a medical instructor, he took students under his direction for education, and read to them private lectures, which he illustrated by anatomical preparations which he brought from Paris. In a few years his enterprising spirit led him to the establishment of an extensive drug store. He imported in this line on a very large scale, and soon became the most noted druggist in New England, and from his knowledge in the art of pharmacy, and his well known honor and integrity, he commanded the principal share of custom.

From his various sources wealth had at length accumulated so abundantly in his coffers that it became a matter

of some concern in what manner to appropriate his funds. With this view he became a member of the Plymouth land company, and purchased extensive tracts in the uncultivated regions of Maine. Here in the vicinity of the Kennebec river he erected churches for public worship in the Episcopal form, and at his own expense supported the Rev. Mr. Baily to preach the gospel for many years. He erected a town in that territory which still bears the name of Gardiner, and imported people from Germany to cultivate the soil, furnishing them annually with the needed supplies of cattle, implements of husbandry, food and clothing ; here houses and mills were built, and a church endowed at his own expense. From his high standing and extensive acquaintance, Dr. Gardiner's select associates were those most distinguished in his day for rank and family, and his house in Boston was the resort of the literary and scientific from both sides of the Atlantic. Among his select guests were Sir William Pepperil, Governor Hutchinson, Earl Percy, Admiral Graves, Major Pitcairn, General Gage, Major Small, &c. &c.

But he was not destined to enjoy uninterrupted prosperity, a revolution in human affairs awaited him, and he was called to witness the annihilation of his earthly enjoyments ; his fortune, his peace and happiness appeared to be dissipated as the morning dew. In the midst of his prosperous career he became, in common with many others, involved in the political struggle between the mother country and her oppressed colonies in 1775. Having imbibed from his ancestors a great veneration for a monarchical government, he united with his loyal associates, and justified the hostile proceedings of the British parliament against the liberties of his native country. He was of course stigmatized as a tory, and became at once odious to the majority of his countrymen who were engaged in the great cause of liberty and freedom. He continued in Boston during the siege with part of his family, and was subjected to great privations and sufferings. When the British army evacuated the town, he was compelled to embark in a small crowded cabin, badly provided with provisions, and in this forlorn condition he bade adieu to his native country to seek a temporary shelter in Quebec : from thence he repaired with a heavy heart to England, where for ten or twelve years he experienced all the calamities of exile, having it in his power to take with him



four hundred pounds only of his princely fortune. The legislature of Massachusetts having enacted that all property belonging to tory refugees should be confiscated for the use of the public, Dr. Gardiner's whole estate was advertised and sold at auction. The estate consisted of one undivided twelfth in the Plymouth patent lands in Massachusetts, and county of Lincoln, amounting to 98,700 acres, with houses, mills and wharves. His stock of drugs was said to fill from twenty to twenty-five wagons. But in consequence of some informality in the legal process by the attorney general, the heirs of Dr. Gardiner were re-invested with the land in the District of Maine, on favorable terms.

Not long after the close of the war of independence Dr. G. returned to Newport in Rhode Island, where he was attacked with a malignant fever, which after the severest sufferings terminated his eventful life, August 8th, 1786, in the 69th year of his age. In the life of Dr. G. piety and family devotion, charity and benevolence, and all the moral virtues were united and conspicuous. He compiled a formula of prayers, and distributed many hundred copies among the poor and destitute.

**GREEN, THOMAS.** The family of Green has made itself remarkable in the medical profession by its humble and singular origin. The subject of this notice, the medical ancestor of the family, was born in Malden, and was one of the first settlers of Leicester, county of Worcester. He received his first medical impressions and impulse from a book given him by a surgeon of a British ship, who resided a few months at his father's, and took an interest in his vigorous and opening intellect. His outfit for the wilderness consisted of his gun, his axe, his book, his sack, and his cow. His first habitation was built by nature, its roof composed of a shelving rock. Here he passed the night in sound repose after the labor of the day in felling and clearing the forest.

Soon after he began his settlement, he was attacked by a fever. Foreseeing the difficulties which must attend his situation without a friendly hand to administer even the scanty necessities of life, he had the precaution to tie a young calf to his cabin formed under the rock. By this stratagem he was enabled to obtain sustenance from the cow, as often as she returned to give nourishment to her young. In this manner he derived his support for some

weeks. By the aid of his book and the knowledge of simples, a proficiency in which he early acquired by an intercourse with the Indians, he was soon enabled to prescribe successfully for the simple maladies of his fellow settlers. By practice, from the necessity of the case, as well as from choice, he acquired theory and skill, and soon rose to great reputation. Thus, from fortuitous circumstances and a humble beginning, the name of Green has attained its present eminence in the medical profession.

GREEN, DR. JOHN, Senior, son of the abovementioned, was born at Leicester, in the year 1736. By the aid of his father he early became a physician, and settled at Worcester. He married a daughter of Brigadier Ruggles, of Hardwick, and became the father of a large family. Not satisfied, as too many are, with the limited means of knowledge which necessarily fell to his lot, he afforded his children the best education in his power. He was extensively employed ; and distinguished himself for his tenderness and fidelity. He inherited a taste and skill in botany, with his profession, from his father. In his garden were to be found the useful plant, the healing herb and the grateful fruit ; which either his humanity bestowed on the sick, or his hospitality on his friends. He died November 29th, 1799, aged 63 years.

GREEN, DR. JOHN, JR., son of the preceding, was born A. D. 1763. Descended from ancestors who made the art of healing their study, Dr. Green was easily initiated in the school of physic ; and from his childhood the natural bias of his mind led him to that profession which through life was the sole object of his ardent pursuit. To be distinguished as a physician, was not his chief incentive. To assuage the sufferings of humanity by his skill, was a higher motive of his benevolent mind. Every duty was performed with delicacy and tenderness. With these propensities, aided by a strong, inquisitive and discriminating mind, he attained to a preeminent rank among the physicians and surgeons of our country. To this sentiment of his worth, correctly derived from witnessing his practice on others, a more feeling tribute is added by those who have experienced his skill ; for so mild was his deportment, so soothing were his manners, and so indefatigable was his attention, that he gained the unbounded confidence of his patients, and the cure was in a good measure performed before medicine was administered. To

those who were acquainted with Dr. Green the idea that "some men are born physicians" was not absurd; for he not only possessed an innate mental fitness for the profession, but was constitutionally formed to bear its fatigues and privations. Few men of his age have had such extensive practice, or endured a greater variety of fatigue, or have been so often deprived of stated rest and refreshment. It is worthy of remark that in all the variety of duty incident to his calling, he was never known to yield to the well intended proffer of that kind of momentary refreshment, so ready at command and so often successfully pressed upon the weary, exhausted and incautious physician.

The firmness and equanimity of his mind, which were conspicuous in all the exigences of life, forsook him not in death. With christian resignation he "set his house in order," knowing he "must die and not live." In perfect possession of his intellectual faculties, with a mind calm and collected, he spent the last moments of life, performing its last duties with the sublime feelings of a philosopher and christian. And when by an examination of his pulse he found the cold hand of death pressing hard upon him, he bade a calm adieu to his attending physicians, who he wished should be the sole witnesses of nature's last conflict. Placing himself in the most favorable posture for an easy exit, he expressed a hope that his fortitude would save his afflicted family and friends from the distress of hearing a dying groan. His hope was accomplished! He died August 11th, 1808, aged forty-five years. At his request his body was examined. The cause of death was found in the enlargement and consequent flaccidity of the aorta.—*Hon. O. Fisk.*

GRIFFITTS, SAMUEL POWEL, M.D. born in Philadelphia, on the 21st day of July, 1759, was the third and last child of William Griffiths and Abigail Powel. His parents were members of the religious society of Friends; the tenets of which sect he adopted, and so steadfastly adhered to, as to afford a happy illustration of their influence upon the human character.

The classical education by which he was so well qualified for the study of a liberal profession, he received for the most part in the College of Philadelphia; an institution which, from the changes effected by the revolution, has been subsequently supplanted by the University. He

possessed an accurate knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, and such a mastery of the French as to enable him to speak it with the greatest fluency and correctness.

From the benevolence which predominated in his character, it is highly probable that, in the choice of a profession, he fixed on the medical as applying most immediately to the relief of human suffering. He studied under the late Dr. Adam Kuhn, professor of materia medica and botany in the College of Medicine, then the only school in America where the science was taught by public lectures. The intimate friendship which commenced at this time and ever afterwards subsisted between him and his preceptor, may be adduced as an infallible evidence not only of his early merits, but of his subsequent good conduct.\*

It was during the period of his professional studies that the disastrous battle of Germantown was fought. Restrained by the strictest precepts of his religion from the performance of military duties, humanity led him to commiserate the sufferings of the wounded, and to apply his efforts towards their relief.

Aiming at the highest honors of the profession, he crossed the Atlantic in 1781, to visit the schools of Europe. He attended upon the lectures and the practice of the hospitals in Paris, and afterwards attended a course of lectures at the much celebrated school of Montpellier, and having taken a tour through the south of France, he repaired to London in June 1783. Here he availed himself of all the opportunities for collecting information which were offered, until the following autumn, when he repaired to Edinburgh, which was then, as it is now, the chief seat of medical science in Great Britain. The eminent advantages held out by this school may be estimated from the names of its professors, the several chairs being then filled by Cullen, Monro, Gregory, Black, and Hamilton. In the spring of 1784 he returned to London, soon after which he embarked at Portsmouth for his native country, and arrived in Philadelphia early in the fall, after an absence of about three years.

With the superior qualifications which he now possessed, he commenced practice in his native city; where he

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\* For an interesting and faithful biographical notice of the late Dr. Kuhn, written by Dr. Griffiths, see the *Eclectic Repertory*, vol. viii.

soon displayed strong proofs of the maturity of his talents ; and to these added a striking evidence of the natural benevolence of his disposition, by his successful exertions in establishing the Philadelphia Dispensary.

The chief design of this charity was to afford medical relief to such of the poor, whose former circumstances and habits of independence, would not permit them to expose themselves as patients in a public hospital, when afflicted by diseases. It was the first institution of its kind established in America, and was founded early in the year 1786, without any other patronage or support than the voluntary contributions of many excellent citizens, and the gratuitous attendance of humane physicians.

It deserves record as a remarkable fact, that, during its primitive obscurity in Strawberry street, and its subsequent more eligible location in Fifth street, he was, with very few exceptions, a daily visiter of the Dispensary for more than forty years ; a circumstance in itself sufficient to account for the prosperity of the institution, and the uncommon regularity with which its affairs have been managed. In addition to his duties as manager, he discharged the laborious office of physician to that institution for seven years. Satisfied when he saw the establishment ably fulfilling the objects for which it was instituted, he seemed anxious to shun notoriety and every thing like public commendation. His great ambition was to effect the most good with the least show. The beautiful sentiment applied by Sallust to Cato—*esse, quam videri, bonus malebat*—happily illustrates the christian spirit by which he was always actuated.

In the year 1816, thirty years after the institution of the first Dispensary in Philadelphia, the extended limits and multiplied population of the city, and consequent increased number of the poor, rendered it necessary to establish two others, one for Southwark and one for the Northern Liberties. In the foundation and support of these additional charities, he took an interest and an active part, not less perhaps than he displayed in the origin of the first ; so that he may be fairly considered as the father of the Dispensaries of his native city.

In the same year in which he was so actively engaged in establishing the Dispensary, he joined the Humane Society, instituted for the purpose of rendering timely assistance in cases of suspended animation, and encouraging

efforts to restore life. This institution always received a large portion of his attention. He was likewise chosen a member of the Philosophical Society, of which Dr. Franklin was then president. In the following year the College of Physicians of Philadelphia was founded, he being one of its original members.

The particular interest which he entertained for the College of Physicians, was evinced by a constant attendance of its meetings, from its first organization until his death ; during all which time he rendered it the most efficient services, both as a zealous member and faithful officer. In 1817 he was chosen its Vice President ; an honor which he retained until his death.

Strongly impressed with the belief that great advantages would result to the medical profession in this country from the adoption of a National Pharmacopœia, he entered warmly into the project when it was brought forward. For this object a convention of the middle states met on the 1st of June, 1819, in the chamber of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia ; and closed its session on the 4th instant, after having made what was deemed a proper selection of the several articles and preparations, and appointed delegates to represent the middle district of the United States in a general convention, for the formation of a Pharmacopœia, to be held at Washington, on the 1st of January, 1820. The College of Physicians having appointed him a member of a committee to prepare an Essay of a Pharmacopœia, to be laid before the general convention, this arduous task was chiefly performed by him.

In the pursuit of knowledge, he never permitted himself to be borne away by those ingenious speculations and sophistical arguments, which in scientific works and associations are so often advanced and plausibly supported. Endowed with a clear perception and sound judgment, his mind was always directed to subjects of practical utility. Upon these, and especially upon such as were connected with his profession, he was always capable of contributing important information. He was a diligent reader, and never allowed himself to be left in the rear of the march of improvement. Unlike those whose learned pursuits are for the most part limited by mere selfish gratification, or the pride of possession, his main object was to attain that which might be applied to some useful or humane intention.

In the great pestilence which in 1793 desolated Philadelphia, he remained in the city, actively engaged in extending professional aid to the sick, except when laboring himself under the disease. Nor was it alone in this season of calamity that he remained firmly at his post, and performed the most laborious and hazardous services. In the memorable epidemics of 1797, '98, '99, 1802, and 1805, he stood in the midst of the desolation, and regardless of personal danger, was solely intent upon extending relief to his suffering fellow-citizens, who, wasted by pestilence in darkness and at noonday, were falling on every side. In 1798 he united his own exertions with those of the late Dr. Rush, in preparing and publishing accurate directions for the prevention and treatment of the prevailing fever ; which, under the sanction of their names, they affectionately recommended to those who were unable to procure the regular advice and attendance of physicians. Surely nothing can more strongly recommend a physician to grateful remembrance than such meritorious acts and magnanimous devotion ; and when we take into consideration the nature of the calamity, and all its distressing accompaniments, we can readily appreciate that affectionate ardor of the Athenians, which, for services rendered by Hippocrates in one of their plagues, led them to bestow upon him a golden crown, and to honor his memory with divine festivals.

The distress which in the year 1793 fell upon the former proprietors of St. Domingo, in consequence of the successful insurrection in that island, furnished an additional opportunity for the display of his benevolence. Most of the French who were driven by this event to seek refuge on our shores, had on their arrival little else to boast of than their lives. Their strong claims for assistance were liberally answered in Philadelphia, where in a short time twelve thousand dollars were collected for their relief. On this occasion Dr. Griffiths made himself very active, both in procuring the means and appropriating them to the necessities of the sufferers. He was particularly qualified for this last office, by the facility he possessed of making himself intimately acquainted with their situation and circumstances. Besides the money collected by himself, he was entrusted with the distribution of large sums raised by public or individual bounty. The part which he bore in alleviating the sufferings of the unfortu-

nate French emigrants, both in 1793 and several subsequent years, left an impression which I have often heard them express with tokens of the most heartfelt gratitude. A circumstance which we may here introduce, is calculated to throw a very strong light upon his character. It might reasonably be supposed that his constant intercourse for several years with the French refugees, the forlorn condition to which they were reduced, and the distressing and sanguinary details they had to relate, would be directly calculated to inspire a hatred of the successful conspirators, which no philanthropy could overcome. Such, however, was not the result. Deeply as he sympathized with the vanquished, he continued to the day of his death to evince a strong solicitude for the general welfare of the present masters of Hayti ; forwarding to them gratuitously, by every favorable opportunity, supplies of fresh vaccine virus, without which that island would be almost deprived, by the nature of its climate, from sharing in the advantages of Jenner's discovery.

In the year 1790 he joined the " Pennsylvania Society for promoting the abolition of slavery, the relief of free negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and improving the condition of the African race" ; a charter for which had been obtained the year previous. The objects embraced by this association, he always had very much at heart. The community of feeling which subsisted on these subjects between him and Gregoire, bishop of Blois, the famous champion for the abolition of negro slavery in France, led to a long continued and intimate correspondence between them.

Dr. Griffiths was always a strenuous advocate for the salutary modifications, which for many years have been gradually finding their way into the penal code of his native state, and felt the most lively interest for the success of the humane system of punishment, which is now about to be applied on a scale well calculated to test its efficacy.

In the year 1792 he was chosen Professor of *Materia Medica* in the University of Pennsylvania ; and during the four years for which he filled this chair, his lectures evinced great industry in the acquisition of useful materials, method and perspicuity in their arrangement, and zeal for the advancement of his class in solid information. But the situation of a public lecturer was not altogether



congenial to his feelings ; which were most gratified by an active discharge of the less conspicuous duties of private life. Perhaps, too, the disinclination which he always manifested to hold any place of emolument, may have exercised some influence in producing his resignation of a chair, which was every year becoming more profitable, and even at that period conferred one of the highest honors within the reach of his profession.

Dr. Griffiths was one of the first to appreciate the importance of vaccination, and to introduce it into this city ; and in no way did he display more zeal and industry than in advocating and spreading, by every means in his power, the blessings flowing from this inestimable discovery. Besides what he accomplished in his individual capacity, he was an original member and active promoter of the Vaccine Society, instituted in the year 1809, by a number of benevolent citizens, who formed themselves into committees, and sought out the objects of their Association among the poor and obscure inhabitants of the city, Southwark and the Northern Liberties, persuading them to submit to vaccination, which was performed at their own dwellings, by physicians appointed by the Society.

Of the various afflictions entailed upon mankind, that of mental derangement makes the strongest appeal to humanity for sympathy and assistance. We might therefore reasonably expect to find Dr. Griffiths actively engaged in some plan for the relief of individuals and families suffering from the effects of this dispensation. Accordingly, when, in the year 1811, proposals were made to the Philadelphia yearly meeting of the religious society of Friends, to make provision for such of their members as were deprived of their reason, he eagerly embarked in a subject which had already occupied his mind for many years. The information he had previously acquired, the zeal by which he was actuated, and the persevering disposition for which he was so remarkable, qualified him peculiarly for rendering the most essential aid towards an establishment of the nature proposed. The highest expectations of him were fully realized. It was agreed upon by the society, that an establishment should be formed, and placed under the direction of such members of the Philadelphia yearly meeting as might become contributors. The original plan was drawn up by him, and he took a most active part in

all the arduous duties connected with the erection of the extensive buildings, and the necessary arrangements for the reception of inmates. This admirable institution, such as it was formed by the joint labors of himself and his valuable colleagues, amply attests the judgment and wisdom which guided its projectors and managers.\*

In stature Dr. Griffitts was about the middle size ; and although his constitution was by no means robust, it was nevertheless capable of supporting considerable fatigue. As the best proof of this we may mention, that although his practice was very extensive, yet he always visited his patients on foot. Such indeed was his predilection for walking, that he never could be induced either by the entreaties of his friends, the increased extent of the city, or the advance of age, to adopt the usual method of riding.

He was extremely plain, abstemious and regular in his mode of living ; which, with the free exercise he took in attending to his patients, no doubt contributed greatly to the preservation of his health. His dress was such as became an elder of the religious society to which he belonged ; and conformed with the simplicity and dignity of his manners and character. Free from even a shade of affectation or ostentation, his deportment was distinguished for its ease and courtesy.

The situation of a physician, who, in the performance of his duties, is liable to be called upon at all hours of the day, does not readily admit of that accurate distribution of time which is allowed by many other avocations. Upon this account, the extreme regularity acquired and maintained by Dr. Griffitts, in all his habits and pursuits, forms a more distinguished trait in his character. He was an early riser, and always began the day by reading a portion of the New Testament in Greek or Latin. Impressed with a deep sense of the paramount obligations of religion, he was seldom known to be absent from the meetings of worship or business of his society. The punctuality with which he visited the Dispensary, has been already remarked, and as an additional proof of the regularity of his habits, and a striking example of parental solicitude, we may mention, that it was his uniform custom to visit daily such of his children and grand-children as resided in the

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\* A detailed and highly interesting account of this institution, will be found in the Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences, for August, 1825.

city. But it was in his professional engagements that his punctuality shone forth most conspicuously. Rarely indeed did it occur, that in keeping the time set for consultation, or other purposes, he was so long as five minutes from the hour appointed. This strict observance of such engagements, he regarded as one of the cardinal virtues of a medical practitioner, considering all violations of it as so many deviations from truth, productive of endless inconvenience. The example of his preceptor, whose conduct in this respect, during a practice of half a century, has perhaps never been surpassed, was well calculated to confirm him in the same habit.

In his consultations with other physicians, his conduct was ever open and ingenuous ; whilst the thorough knowledge he possessed of the rules and etiquette prescribed by medical ethics, was strongly demonstrated by his scrupulous observance of them.

The practice of Dr. Griffitts was distinguished by closeness of observation, clearness of judgment, and when the occasion required, prompt decision and efficient energy. To the well established principles of medicine, he adhered with great strictness ; but was nevertheless always ready to adopt useful innovations, when these were in accordance with the dictates of sound reason, and attested by impartial experiments. His attentions to his patients were sedulous, evincing a strong interest in their welfare, and inspiring confidence of a happy result.

As a writer, Dr. Griffitts had one formidable obstacle to contend with, and this was his reluctance to appear before the public. His communications, which were never made except when drawn forth by a sense of duty, possess an easy, plain and concise style. Fidelity and perspicuity in narration were more his objects than grace or elegance of composition. He was one of the editors of that highly useful medical journal the *Eclectic Repertory* ; a publication which reflects great credit upon the judgment and talents of those by whom it was conducted, and the suspension of which is a loss to the profession. Among the original papers it contains, are some valuable contributions by Dr. Griffitts ; in all of which he has strictly confined himself to a relation of facts, without advancing any theoretical remarks. They are very much condensed, and strongly impressed with that candor and good sense for which he was eminently distinguished.

In the first volume he has evinced the particular interest he felt in the success of vaccination, by giving some very useful observations on the best means of preserving and using the vaccine crust. In the third volume he introduces the subject of blistering as a remedy for preventing and arresting mortification. The sixth volume contains a paper upon the subject of re-infection in the yellow or ship fever of tropical climates ; the non-occurrence of which he ably maintains. Among other evidences which he brings in support of his position, he states, that during the seven years of its appearance in Philadelphia, he did not meet with one instance of the same person's having the yellow fever a second time. He was a firm believer in the contagious nature of this disease, and a warm advocate for enforcing restrictions and precautionary measures, calculated to prevent its introduction from abroad. In the ninth volume he has recorded an instructive " Case of supposed aneurism of the right carotid artery ;" which is intended as a salutary caution to his medical brethren. It affords a fine specimen of his candor.

In the year 1787 he married Mary Fishbourne, daughter of William Fishbourne, formerly a respectable merchant of Philadelphia. From this marriage six children with their mother yet survive. (1827.)

The private worth and domestic virtues of Dr. Griffitts will forever endear his memory to his family, and to all who knew him intimately. As a friend, he was kind, sincere and obliging ; as a husband, attentive and affectionate ; as a father, fond and indulgent. His piety was founded upon unshaken faith in the doctrines and efficacy of the christian dispensation, as inculcated in the precepts, and maintained in practice by the religious society of Friends.

Thus, by the purity of his life and the possession of religion, was he happily prepared for the final summons, which on the 12th of May, 1826, so suddenly called him away. For several days previously he felt rather more debility than usual, but continued to visit his patients, although he was unable to attend them all. Early on the morning of his death he complained of some unpleasant feelings about his chest, which he thought might be relieved by bleeding. He arose and began to dress himself. In the mean time, his wife became alarmed and sent for his friend Dr. Parrish ; who, although he attended imme-

diately, found on his arrival the lifeless body of Dr. Griffiths resting in an easy posture upon the bed. Having escaped the infirmities of age, he was thus removed in his 67th year, and, as if through a special interposition of divine favor, exempted from the ordinary penalties of sickness and pain.—*G. Emerson, M.D.*

HARRIS, TUCKER, M.D. was born in the city of Charleston, South Carolina, in the year 1747. While a youth, he was remarked for his prudent conduct and assiduity ; and discovering a predilection in favor of medicine, his parents were induced, at a suitable age, to place him with Dr. Lionel Chalmers, a physician of great respectability and distinguished abilities. Under such a preceptor he made a flattering progress in the acquisition of knowledge. The correctness and acuteness of observation in his pupil, were early appreciated by Dr. Chalmers, who was himself an accurate observer of nature. The American medical schools being in their infancy, after acquiring a proficiency in pharmacy, young Harris was sent in 1768 to Edinburgh to prosecute his studies. Here he diligently attended three courses of lectures of the most illustrious professors of the age, among whom was the father of modern medicine, Dr. Cullen, as well as Dr. Gregory. He there wrote and defended an inaugural thesis, "*De Cholera Spontanea*," and received from that celebrated University the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

On his return to his native country, in 1771, Dr. Harris commenced the practice of medicine under the most favorable auspices ; his talents were recommended to the people by his friend and former preceptor, Dr. Chalmers, who, a few years after, departed this life, leaving Dr. Harris a successor to his fame, in every respect worthy the patronage bestowed. An eventful political epoch, the revolutionary war, had now arrived ; the patriotic ardor of Dr. Harris induced him to engage in the cause of liberty, and during the great conflict, he not only served as Hospital Surgeon in garrison, but occasionally discharged his duties in camp. On the restoration of peace he resumed the practice of his profession in the city of Charleston, which increased rapidly, and soon became respectable and extensive. From 1783 to '86 Dr. Harris was connected in business with the venerable Dr. Oliphant ; but for many years posterior to this, and during the greatest part of his life, his professional duties were conducted by himself.

Dr. Harris was one among the first of the officers of the Medical Society of South Carolina, and for the years 1796 and '97 was chosen president.

As a physician he was eminently skilful, and greatly esteemed for his sensibility and affectionate attention to his patients. His purity of manners, circumspection, inflexible integrity and sound judgment, exalted him in the esteem of his fellow citizens, by whom he was elected to fill important and responsible municipal offices. His attainments in literature were respectable ; he was of a studious disposition, and continued through life a diligent inquirer after truth. During the several melancholy seasons of the prevalence of epidemics in the city, he was faithful and constant in the discharge of his practical duties, and his pen was profitably employed, and with profoundness of reasoning, in several well written essays which have appeared in the public journals. As a friend Dr. Harris was ever sincere, kind and undeviating ; his deportment and conversation were unaffected, pleasing and instructive ; from him the cause of religion uniformly received the most liberal support ; he was a zealous advocate of every measure tending to its advancement ; his charity was ever active and always unostentatious ; his sympathetic feelings were at all times alive to the complaints of the widow and the orphan.

Having arrived to advanced age he suffered a lingering illness, which he was well aware would eventuate in dissolution ; he sustained his infirmities with becoming fortitude, and with calm resignation awaited the awful crisis. So perfectly composed and prepared was this excellent man, that on the day of his decease, with his fingers upon his faltering pulse, he seemed to employ his last moments in contemplating the solemn transition from time to eternity. The approach of death was gradual, and he expired on the 6th of July, 1821, in the 74th year of his age, without a struggle. Always averse to pomp and pageantry, pursuant to his earnest request made some time previous to his decease, his remains were attended to the grave by his nearest male relatives only, and privately interred in the family burial place, at St. Paul's Church.—*G. Logan, M.D.*

HAYWARD, LEMUEL, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born in Braintree, Massachusetts, and received his degree at Cambridge in 1768. In about a year after, he came to Boston,

and placed himself as a medical pupil under the direction of Dr. Joseph Warren, who afterwards fell at the battle on Bunker's Hill. He had for his fellow students three gentlemen, all distinguished for their patriotism and public services, Dr. Samuel Adams, Dr. Eustis and Dr. Townsend.

Having completed the usual term of study, he established himself, by the advice of his preceptor, at Jamaica Plain, near Boston, and soon acquired a lucrative and respectable practice. When the revolutionary war broke out, he was, in June, 1775, appointed a surgeon in the general hospital in the continental army, and served in that post till the British evacuated Boston, and the American troops marched to the middle States. In 1776 he began the practice of inoculation for the smallpox in connexion with the venerable Dr. Isaac Rand, of Charlestown, the first of the name, and continued it for several years successively, in company with Dr. Davies of Roxbury, Dr. Aspinwall of Brookline, and Dr. John Warren of Boston. In 1783 he removed to the capital, without at first intending to engage in medical practice ; but he was afterwards induced to resume his business, and from this time his reputation increased rapidly, and his professional occupations soon became very considerable, and continued so until the year 1798. The appearance of the yellow fever in that year, induced him to purchase a retreat for his family in the country; and his property being now ample, and his health impaired by a severe asthmatic complaint, he afterwards spent several weeks in the country during the summer season.

Dr. Hayward was admitted to the Massachusetts Medical Society in the year 1784 ; and was chosen corresponding member of the London Medical Society in 1791. He was also a member of the Bristol Medical Society in England ; and of the Massachusetts Agricultural and Humane Societies. For many years he was a counsellor in the Massachusetts Medical Society, and also for a long time filled the responsible and delicate office of chairman of the censors, and of the committee of Boylston Prize Questions. In the early part of his life his professional reading was extensive ; but in his latter years he preferred reading history, theology and works of fancy. Though he read and thought much, and often committed his reflections and observations to writing, he was wholly unambi-

tious of literary and professional honors, and never could be brought to overcome the reluctance he felt to publishing. He was a firm believer in the truths of christianity, and became a public professor of it at the early age of nineteen. In the social and domestic relations of life he appeared to the greatest advantage ; for he was cheerful, kind, hospitable, and full of agreeable and instructive conversation. As a physician, he was excellent for his powers of discriminating diseases, and especially for his skill in varying the remedy according to the stage of disease. His interest in his patients was very strong, but his sensibility did not brook any neglect or want of confidence.

The asthmatic affection, which had troubled him through a considerable part of his life, disappeared some years before his last illness ; instead of it, he exhibited symptoms of an organic disease of the heart. Probably this derangement disposed him to the complaint of which he died. In the early part of March he was seized with inflammation of the lungs, which, after more than once assuming a flattering aspect, terminated fatally on the 20th of March, 1821.

HERSEY, DR. EZEKIEL, was a native of Hingham, Massachusetts, and one of three sons of James Hersey, all of whom were respectable practising physicians. He was graduated at Harvard University in 1728, and was a distinguished scholar. He studied medicine with Dr. Dalhonde, a Frenchman considerably distinguished as a physician in Boston, and not less so for his violent opposition to Dr. Boylston, when he first introduced the inoculation of smallpox. Young Hersey had the courage to enter the class with those who were first inoculated, and his example was an encouragement to others.

Having completed his professional studies he established himself in his native town ; and his fame soon spread, and his practice became greatly extended, especially in cases of surgery, embracing a circuit to the westward as far as Dedham, and to the south and east to Middleborough and Plymouth, and occasionally through the whole county of Barnstable. He was a man of strong powers of mind and correct judgment, and emphatically the agent of humanity and kindness, visiting the afflicted under all circumstances indiscriminately, faithfully acquitting himself of the moral duties which his profession imposes, without consulting his own pecuniary interest. His fees were moderate, and he never distressed the poor. He was heard to say that he



never sued but one person, and that was to recover a disputed demand of £8 (\$26.66), for two journies of more than sixty miles, and performing a capital surgical operation. He educated a considerable number of pupils, many of whom attained to professional eminence, and reflected honor on his character. His attachment to literary establishments was evinced by his liberal bequest at his death of £1000, and a like sum at the decease of his widow, to be applied to the support of a Professor of Anatomy and Surgery at Harvard University; and it was by his influence that his brother Abner added £500 to the same fund. Dr. Hersey is said to have extended his liberality also to another important literary object, the establishment of an academy at Hingham. Having no children, it is understood that he entrusted his wife with funds for the establishment of this institution. After his decease she married Captain Derby of Salem, and erected the academy, which was incorporated by the name of Derby Academy.\* Dr. E. Hersey died December 9th, 1770, aged 62 years.

Upon the character of Dr. Hersey we ponder with veneration and love; it is that of intelligence, fidelity and kindness; of one eminently humane and a benevolent friend to the poor, sacrificing his ease, his domestic pleasures, his health, and even exposing his life, to afford relief to those in distress. Of this we have a striking example, which is to this day remembered. Dr. Hersey was called to a colored female while in critical circumstances, another physician having failed to afford relief. It was in a winter night, and during a cold snow storm, the distance eight miles. The message was delivered to him under some doubts whether he ought to expose himself, but he replied, "Whether black or white, she is of the human family and shall have my assistance." When he arrived at the log hut in the woods, he found he had left some articles at home, which the case required; he returned for the purpose, rode a second time to the patient, and administered the necessary assistance, and her life was preserved.

HERSEY, DR. ABNER, M.M.S.S. a younger brother of the preceding, a native also of Hingham. His advantages of education were greatly deficient, having labored

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\* The reverend and venerable Joseph Thaxter, from whom the above information was obtained, in a letter says, Mrs. Derby was, not long before her death, sensible of the error in giving the name of Derby to the academy, and had she lived a little longer would have had it altered.

with his father in husbandry during his early years. He commenced the study of medicine under his brother James of Barnstable, a physician of reputation and extensive practice, enjoying entire confidence and popular favor wherever he was known. After a pupilage of about one year the decease of his brother proffered him, at the age of nineteen, the benefit of his name, and the field of his professional labors.

At a youthful period of life, perhaps unexampled in the annals of medicine, and under the disadvantage of a penurious education, young Hersey began his career, and ever after pursued it with a zeal and fidelity in the highest degree honorable to his character. He at once embraced the whole circle of practice which his brother had enjoyed, and it was not long before he acquired the confidence and respectful regard of the people. For many years he commanded without a rival the whole practice on Cape Cod, a distance of forty miles, and containing a population of seven or eight thousand inhabitants, controlling at pleasure his practice and his fees. He possessed a sound judgment, and by his correct observation and experience he supplied in a considerable degree the deficiency of medical education. He was indefatigable in his pursuits, faithful and punctual in his engagements, and successful in his practical applications. As a surgeon he was considered judicious and skillful, though he performed no capital operations. He possessed a rigid sense of moral rectitude and honesty, no man ever suggested that he had suffered injustice from him. Often has the writer of this sketch, while under his pupilage, received his warning voice, that if a patient die through the ignorance, neglect or inattention of the physician, that life will at a future day be required at his hands. He strictly and religiously regarded the Sabbath, seldom riding on that day unless from imperious necessity, and as seldom absenting himself from public worship, when his health would permit. He was moderate in his charges, punctual in making his annual demands, and an example of economy in all his appropriations and expenditures, by which he accumulated an ample competency.

Dr. Hersey was subject to hypochondriac affections, and in his domestic character he was eccentric in the extreme, a mere compound of caprice and whim; domestic happiness and social intercourse were strangers in his family. During an apprenticeship of five years I was oftener chast-

ened by his frowns, than cheered by any expressions of approbation or regard. He had never passed through the smallpox, and the idea of receiving that disease was during life a great terror to him. He was more than once greatly exposed to the infection ; on one occasion he had seated himself by the bedside of his patient, when he perceived that her face was overspread with pustules, which could be no other than smallpox. Struck with alarm he immediately left the house, and as soon as he reached home, he changed his garments and exposed them to the air, and proceeded to prepare both soul and body for the awful event. He dispersed his family, and with a single attendant, who had gone through the disease, shut himself up in his house to await the result. At the usual time for the attack his imagination was not idle, he complained of the usual precursory symptoms, these were allowed to agitate his mind for a few days, when the scene was happily changed, and all apprehension removed. He adopted a very abstemious mode of living, rejecting all animal food, ardent spirits, and even wine, and confining himself chiefly to a diet of milk and vegetables. But in nothing was his singularity more conspicuous, than in the peculiar fashion of his dress. He was a declared enemy to the follies of the world, and an admirer of simplicity in dress and manners, detesting every thing that approached the prevailing fashions of the day, and making it his constant theme of animadversion. His own garments were of a fashion peculiar to himself, remarkably large and loose, and lined throughout with baize. In a warm summer day, he was seen to chase a flock of sheep from his enclosure ; he soon found himself drenched in perspiration ; throwing off his wig he said to a friend, "This is not strange, for I have more wool upon my back, than the whole flock of sheep." Such was his whimsical fancy, that he had a great coat made of tanned leather ; seven calfskins were cut and formed into an outer garment as a defence against the rain.

At the commencement of the American revolution Dr. Hersey was not found in the ranks of those bold spirits who would at all events stand in defence of the rights and liberties of our country ; he was among the doubtful, the prudent and the timid. He was no political partisan, but was a friend to his country, and it was his sentiment that those who are girt with the sword of the law, should be found enrobed in the garment of moral rectitude and re-

ligion. He suffered much in his pecuniary affairs by the instability of our paper currency, and he always deemed it unjust that his patients should avail themselves of depreciated money to pay his demands at par. He would often relate the story, that in the spring he sold a cow for thirty dollars, and that in the ensuing autumn he paid the whole sum for a goose. He was by nature churlish in his temper and abrupt in manners, and when in his peevish mood, it was common for him to express himself in such language as this, "I had rather be chained to a galley oar, than to suffer such vexation." A curious instance of this kind occurred when Mrs. D. the widow of his brother, contemplated in company with another lady making him a visit. She informed him by letter of their intention. The doctor knowing they would appear in a style rather different from that to which he had been accustomed, was greatly agitated, and immediately replied to the letter as follows. "Madam, I can't have you here ; I am sick, and my wife is sick ; I have no hay, nor corn for your horses ; I have no servants in my family, and I had rather be chained to a galley oar than to wait on you myself." Dr. Hersey was elected a member of the Medical Society of Massachusetts. He died January 9th, 1787, in the 66th year of his age, leaving no children.

His last will may appear as a fair epitome of his character. It may be considered as one of the strangest schemes ever devised to preserve and perpetuate an estate, and the event has proved its absurdity. In his last will he gave to Harvard University, towards the establishment of a professorship of anatomy and surgery, the sum of £500, equal to \$1666,66. The remainder of his estate, which was ample for the region in which he spent his days, he gave to thirteen of the congregational parishes in the county of Barnstable in different proportions, according to the share of professional business he had performed in each, the net proceeds of which, after the demise of his widow, were to be laid out annually, for one hundred years, in the purchase of Doddridge's Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul, and other works, Evans's Sermons, and Grove on the Lord's Supper. After the completion of one hundred years, those who shall then be the ministers of the thirteen parishes, are to be at liberty to select any other books, calculated to promote piety and religion, except one year in every four, when the other prescribed

books are still to be purchased. The deacons of the thirteen parishes have the sole care of the estate, the particular mode of managing which is specified with great minuteness in the doctor's will, in the same manner as had been usual with him ; the fences to be kept entire, certain lots of land to be ploughed in rotation, but not oftener than once in seven years, a limited quantity of wood to be cut annually, &c. &c. The deacons were to pay over the net income to the ministers of those parishes, who were to vest the same in books agreeably to the testator's directions, and distribute them gratuitously among the members of their respective churches. The scheme of the doctor's will was carried into execution for a few years, when it appeared, that by the annual meetings of the deacons of the several churches, and other contingent expenditures, a large proportion of the income was exhausted ; very few books were distributed ; the parties interested became dissatisfied ; and petitioned the legislature to have the will abolished, and the whole property sold and divided in due proportions to the several churches interested. This petition the legislature deemed proper to grant, and the property has been sold and distributed accordingly, a compromise, however, with some distant heirs being first effected.

Dr. Hersey never wearied his mind with theoretical investigation, but contented himself with simple practical observations. In chronic diseases he was, with his contemporaries, in the constant practice of administering a mercurial alterative course accompanied with a milk diet. Mercury combined with antimony in the form of Plummer's pills, was the favorite alterative in which he reposed the fullest confidence. In some gastric affections it was his practice to administer a moderate course of antimony in the form of Dr. Lockyer's pills, beginning with one or two, and increasing to eight or ten according to the effect ; in this way he considered the medicine as a sort of intelligent agent, indicating by its effect either that the stomach or intestines required evacuating. Six or eight of Lockyer's pills\* when reduced to powder, he often administered as an efficacious emetic, but he never employed emetic tartar in any case. The Turpeth mineral was a prepara-

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\* The panacea of antimony was the basis of Lockyer's pills, and they were for near a century highly celebrated.

tion in which he had great confidence, especially as an expectorant in peripneumony and pleurisy ; and he frequently combined this with ipecacuanha as an emetic. In the low nervous fever, the compound powder of contrayerva with calomel and camphor constituted his favorite remedy. Opium was sparingly used by the physicians of that period, the dose rarely exceeded one grain, and the liquid laudanum of Sydenham was always held in preference to opium in its crude state. Dr. Hersey was much attached to the use of chalybeate medicines in chronic diseases, but his only preparation was the simple rust of iron reduced to powder. He also employed the oak bark as a substitute for the Peruvian bark.

HOLTEN, SAMUEL, M.M.S.S. was born of respectable parents in that part of Salem long known by the name of Salem Village, now Danvers, June 9th, 1738. His ancestors rank among the early settlers of that ancient town. Nature was kind and liberal in her endowments. His form was majestic, his person graceful, his countenance pleasing, his manners easy and engaging, his address courtly, his talents popular, his disposition amiable and benevolent, and he possessed good intellectual powers. It was the intention of his parents that he should have a collegiate education, but while pursuing the preparatory course at twelve years of age he was visited with a dangerous indisposition, which so enfeebled his constitution and impaired his hearing, that the favorite object was relinquished, and the medical profession received his devoted attention. His qualifications for the practice of medicine were acquired under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Prince of Danvers. So intense was his application, and so rapid the progress he made in this pursuit, that at the age of nineteen he commenced practitioner in the town of Gloucester, from whence in two years he removed to his native town, where with growing reputation he pursued his professional course during sixteen years.

In the year 1768 he was elected by the town of Danvers a representative in the general court, and this was a prelude to his constant employment in offices of civil government in after life. During the difficulties between the parent country and her American colonies, and the political fermentation in the public mind indicating the approach of revolutionary scenes, Dr. Holten took a noble and decided part in behalf of his country, and soon became

a very active and influential character, which he continued to be during the whole of the ensuing revolution. He was at an early period elected a member of public conventions and committees. Highly electrified by the spirit of the times, few men were more zealously engaged in the common cause, or more constantly employed on important services preliminary to the freedom and sovereignty of our country. In 1775 Dr. Holten relinquished his medical profession entirely and all private business, and as a venerable patriot courageously stepped forward at his country's call, and risked his life and fortune to save its sinking liberties. Holding a seat as a representative from Danvers in the Provincial Congress at Watertown, he was appointed one of a committee of safety, and one of the medical board for the purpose of examining candidates for the medical department in the continental army then forming at Cambridge. The present author has a perfect recollection of undergoing a rigid examination before Dr. Holten and Dr. Taylor, who formed the medical board in 1775. In 1776, when independence was declared, he was appointed judge of the court of general sessions of the peace, and also justice of the quorum, which office he held for forty years.

In 1777 he was one of the delegates from Massachusetts who assisted in framing the confederation of the United States, and in the following year he was chosen a delegate to the American congress, and annexed his ratifying signature to that constitution of government. To this station he was repeatedly elected, and so high did he stand in the esteem of that august body that they elected him president of congress, and thus raised him to the first seat of honor in his country. For more than a year Dr. Holten was the only medical character in congress; and to him was committed the charge of the medical department in the army. He held a seat in congress, when in the year 1783 a party of insurgent soldiers surrounded the hall of their session, imperiously demanding compensation for their services. He and several other members, with their lives in their hands, ventured to expostulate and reason with them to pacify their minds and quell the tumult. But so violent and outrageous were the insurgents that with bayonets pointed at their breasts, for several hours they loaded them with execrations and threatened immediately to sacrifice them unless they would grant their request; at

length, however, they were prevailed upon to desist and await the issue. When the first minister of state was received by congress from the United Netherlands, Dr. H. was appointed to conduct the business as master of ceremonies. When the Federal Constitution was submitted to the people, he was one of the delegates in the convention of the state of Massachusetts which adopted that excellent plan of republican government. In 1793 he was again elected representative to congress ; and twice he was appointed an elector of president and vice president. He was one whose name is found in the act of incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society, of which he was a counsellor and a vice president ; and he was a member of many other societies.

Though he made no pretensions to the liberal arts and sciences, and never attempted to shine in the republic of letters, he was a steady friend to civil, religious and literary institutions, ever consulting and promoting their best interest. Dr. H. continued to sustain his popularity with the public and the confidence of his compatriots to the last. Having been elected eight years as a representative in the general court, five in the senate, twelve in the council, five in congress under the confederation, and two under the federal constitution ; in 1796 being in feeble health, he declined a reelection to congress, but accepted a commission as judge of probate for the county of Essex, and discharged the duties of the office to general approbation nearly nineteen years. In May, 1815, he resigned, and spent the remaining months of his life in contemplative retirement. In his native town he served in various offices many years, and possessing a happy talent at healing breaches and settling private differences, he was frequently employed as an arbitrator in difficult cases, and occasionally attended ecclesiastical councils. Forty-seven years he served his country in public stations ; a period that comprised one of the most extraordinary revolutions the world had ever witnessed. Patriotism warmed his heart, and his feelings uniformly sympathized with the aspect of public affairs ; but not even in the darkest season did he despair. The righteousness of the cause in which he was engaged, and dependence on Heaven for success, supported him. Integrity, fidelity and perseverance were prominent features in his character ; a noble rectitude of heart marked his judicial proceedings ; and never did he sacrifice the public



good to private emolument. Skilled in human nature and the art of government, he rendered his country eminent services. Whatever station he filled, he was all attention to its duties, and remarkably punctual to his engagements.

Judge Holten affected no parade of living, but chose a truly republican style. He lived to be useful ; and being ever ready to counsel, advise and assist, he was a favorite of the people. The charm of popularity he felt in full force, nor was he insensible to the love of fame. No man possessed more ambition to please, and few had a happier talent. His heart was alive to the tender sympathies of humanity. Formed "to feel another's wo," objects of distress, the widow's sigh, and orphan's tear, contained a rhetoric he could not resist. He was the poor man's friend ; and his hand was open to the relief of misery and indigence. Nor was he a brighter example of the public, than of the private and domestic virtues. Never was there a more affectionate husband and kinder parent, nor one more studiously attentive to consult the convenience and promote the happiness of every branch of family connexions : and his affability, urbanity and instructive conversation endeared him to his numerous friends. But piety is the consummation of human character. We should leave his memory under a cloud, did we forget to notice the uniform regard he paid through life to God and divine things. Blessed with pious parental instructions, his mind became serious at an early period. Before he had attained twenty-one years, he was admitted a member of the church ; and amidst the greatest multiplicity and pressure of business, he manifested a sacred veneration for divine institutions. The cause and interest of religion he ever patronised ; the sacred scriptures he searched for himself ; he shone a pattern of family devotion, but he was no friend to bigotry, superstition or religious enthusiasm. Catholic in his sentiments, he embraced in the arms of charity the pious and good of every denomination, wherever found. When the load of years and decay of nature premonished him of approaching dissolution, he declared his resignation to the will of God, and breathed out life in an assured hope of a blessed and glorious immortality, January 2d, 1816, in the 78th year of his age.—*Funeral Sermon by B. Wadsworth, A. M. Pastor of the First Church in Danvers.*

HONYMAN, DR. ROBERT, a native of Kincardine in Scotland, for several years held the rank of surgeon in the

British navy. In 1774 he resigned his commission and emigrated to America. Soon after his arrival in Virginia he settled in the county of Louisa, and commenced the practice of medicine and surgery, which he pursued with unrivalled skill, fidelity and industry until a short time before his death.

At the commencement of the revolutionary war, unlike most of his countrymen, Dr. Honyman espoused the cause of his adopted country, and from the station of a common soldier was speedily promoted by General Scott to the rank of surgeon in a regiment.

Although daily employed in the duties of a most laborious profession, he was so great an economist of time, that he made extraordinary attainments in literature. Besides a knowledge of almost every book in our language, worth reading, Dr. Honyman was thoroughly acquainted with the works of the most eminent Greek, Latin, French and Italian authors, and read them with nearly as much facility as English. It would hardly be saying too much to affirm, that he had read more and remembered better what he had read, than any man in Virginia. Neither age nor affliction could abate his ardent thirst for knowledge, and his astonishing memory was vivid and retentive to his last hour. As a man and a citizen, the whole tenor of his life was honorable, upright and truly exemplary.

Dr. Honyman wrote a journal of his voyage to St. Helena, while surgeon of the Portland in 1771, together with an interesting account of the picturesque and romantic scenery of that island.

His will, bearing date June, 1821, and admitted to record at the Hanover superior court, April 29th, 1824, which disposes of a very large estate, is admirably written. The following is an extract from it :—" I also give and bequeath to my son, my thermometer, my diploma of Doctor of Physic, also a human rib which will be found in a small trunk in my chest, with my earnest request that he will carefully keep the said rib, which is of James the Vth, king of Scotland, and transmit it carefully to his descendants."

HOPKINS, DR. LEMUEL, M.M.S.S. Hon. From the time of the Hon. Edward Hopkins, one of the early governors of Connecticut, the name has been frequently distinguished by several men of eminence. A branch of the family removed from Hartford to Waterbury in 1680, in

which town, in the parish now called Salem, Dr. Lemuel Hopkins was born June 19th, 1750. The Rev. Samuel Hopkins, D.D. the distinguished theologian, was a native of the same town, and a cousin of his father's. Dr. Lemuel Hopkins began the study of his profession under Dr. Jared Potter of Wallingford, and afterwards pursued it with Dr. Seth Bird of Litchfield; after having practised some years at Litchfield, he removed to Hartford, where he continued in practice during life.

He was the most distinguished pupil of his two eminent instructors, being among the first physicians of the state, if not at the head of his profession, for several years previous to his death. In addition to a full practice in Hartford, he was extensively employed in consultation, and had a greater reputation in chronic diseases, more particularly in the early stages of phthisis pulmonalis, than any practitioner of his vicinity. He was possessed of a great originality of genius, and had a peculiar facility of investigating the causes and seats of obscure diseases, the events of which generally proved him to be uncommonly correct and discriminating upon these subjects. It may with justice be remarked that he retained the highest reputation both in the theory and practice of medicine, of any physician in his county, or perhaps in the state. The eccentricities of his character were peculiarly striking. He possessed strong confidence in himself, and a talent to inspire the same in others; he had a just sense of the influence of the mind upon the body when either were particularly diseased, and often remarked "a wounded spirit who can bear." To obviate this he uniformly administered comfort and consolation, and even hope, as long as life remained.

In his person Dr. Hopkins was tall, lean, stooping, his countenance strongly marked, his features large, eyes light, limbs uncommonly long, yet in his youth he was very muscular and strong. He was for a short time in the American army as a volunteer, and at one time some of the officers were attempting to fire a king's arm held in one hand, and extended at full length; all failed in the attempt, but Hopkins on trial was completely successful to the astonishment of all present.

Dr. H. was one of the founders of the Medical Society of Connecticut, and while he lived was an active and useful member of it. He received the degree of Master of

Arts from Yale College in 1784. He was indefatigable in his literary and scientific labors, his knowledge was very extensive, his mind highly cultivated, he was not only thoroughly read in the best writers of his profession, but in those of the arts and sciences and modern literature generally. His memory was remarkably strong and retentive ; he would quote every writer he had read, whether medical or literary, with the same readiness that a learned clergyman quotes his bible. So familiar to him were the great English poets, that he would entertain his friends by repeating their more interesting writings ; the works of Pope and Milton were his particular favorites. His powers of abstraction were uncommon ; he not unfrequently sat up the whole night, when engaged in any subject that greatly interested him ; his wife has said that she has frequently found him sitting in the same attitude and position in the morning, that she left him in on retiring at night.

On visiting a patient in the crisis of fever, Dr. H. found that her friends supposed her in a dying state ; the father said to him " My daughter is dying, had I not better send for a clergyman ? " " No," replied the doctor, " but you may send for the undertaker, and have her measured for her coffin." The father, indignant at the harshness of the reply, remonstrated in severe language for trifling with his feelings in this moment of anxiety and affliction. The doctor explained, " My meaning is, you may as well send for one as the other ; if your daughter is left undisturbed, and allowed to be quiet, she will recover, or I will forfeit my reputation ; but if you disturb her as you propose, she will in my opinion certainly die." The doctor's advice was followed and she recovered.

In acute diseases Dr. H.'s practice was efficient and energetic. He used the lancet, and antimony, and calomel and opium with a liberal hand. Whenever he became much interested in a case, his attentions were unceasing ; denying all other calls he would devote his days and nights often for many days in succession to the case, and not unfrequently administer every dose of medicine with his own hand. In one case, about a critical period, he was suspicious that his medicines might require variation ; he could not sleep, got up in the night, rode four miles to his patient, entered the room without uttering a word, felt his pulse and skin, made signs for him to put out his tongue,

and left the house without speaking to the patient or nurse, being satisfied that his patient was better. Physicians previous to that day were in the alexipharmic practice in febrile diseases, but Dr. H. introduced the antiphlogistic regimen and practice. Being called to a child in scarlet fever, the little sufferer was loaded with bed clothes, the room heated, and every crack and key hole stopped ; the day was pleasant in summer, Dr. H. was a stranger in the family, his personal appearance was ugly and uncouth ; he entered the room in his usual unceremonious manner, his large eyes staring around, without uttering a word, he took the child into his arms, and proceeded hastily out of the house and sat down with it under a refreshing shade. The whole household and neighborhood followed, and threatened the doctor with broomsticks. He kept them off however, and ordered wine to be brought, and soon recovered the child.

Dr. H., it is believed, fell a victim to the pursuit of an improper remedy in his own case ; he was always apprehensive of pulmonary consumption. After exposing himself to cold, he was attacked with pain in the side ; he was bled repeatedly, notwithstanding the opposition and remonstrance of his medical friends, lived upon the lowest diet, and took repeated doses of neutral salts. Unexpectedly a hydrothorax ensued, and proved fatal to him in a few weeks. He died April 14th, 1801, in the 51st year of his age.

The moral character of Dr. H. was irreproachable, and his whole life was distinguished for the practice of moral virtue. In early life, it has been said, he was an admirer of the writings of Voltaire, Rousseau, Volney, D'Alembert, and other infidel philosophers, who flourished about the time of the French revolution. But a friend says, that in the latter part of his life he made the bible his particular study, and thought very favorably of the christian religion and its author. His friend by particular request passed the night with him when he died, and witnessed the calm and dignified composure of a great mind ; his last words were, " God, who is the great author and governor of all things, regulates and controls all events ; even the smallest, as well as the greatest, are the objects of his care. It is as necessary for us to die as to be born, that we may fill up the changes essential to the perpetuation of our natures." He then paused, and said " let my family be called," which

was done ; after this interview, which was more tender and affectionate than can be described, he said " I have now finished the last duties of life, lay me upon my bed and stay by me till I die." With the assistance of his friend he walked to his bed, composed himself in his last attitude and never moved again. Such was Dr. Hopkins ; his life was full of incidents, full of usefulness, full of honor ; he lived the admiration of his friends, he died, deeply and extensively lamented with the blessings of thousands resting upon him.

Dr. Hopkins was a star of the first magnitude in the constellation of poets and political writers, who were distinguished about the time of the revolution, and after that event. It is well known that from a few years previous to the struggle, to about 1800, several branches of literature, and more particularly poetry, were so much cultivated in Connecticut that the state was frequently during that period denominated the Athens of America. Among the most distinguished literary characters were the Hon. John Trumbull, the Hon. Joel Barlow, General David Humphries, the Rev. Timothy Dwight, D.D., Noah Webster, LL.D. the Rev. Nathan Strong, D.D. and Dr. Lemuel Hopkins. Beside works upon various subjects, which most of these gentlemen published with their names, Trumbull, Barlow and Hopkins, were the joint authors of the *Anarchiad*, a satirical work which contributed much to draw the attention of the public to the precarious state of the union, under the old confederation. They were probably assisted by Strong and Humphries, and perhaps by Dwight. Subsequently the doctor was associated with Richard Alsop, Esq. the Hon. Theodore Dwight, Mason F. Cogswell, M.D., William Brown, Esq., and several others. The *Echo*, *Political Green House*, many satirical poems, and several able essays in prose, were produced. This association, it is believed, were occasionally assisted by the Hon. Zephaniah Swift, the Hon. Uriah Tracy, the Hon. Tappan Reeve and many other public characters of that time. Out of Connecticut, they were generally known by the appellation of the Hartford wits. They were strong supporters of the administration of Washington, their efforts giving a tone to the public feeling and sentiment in its favor ; and their influence was acknowledged to be very great with the literary and cultivated part of the community, not only in their state, but in all

parts of the union. Of the poetry that was exclusively written by Dr. Hopkins, the Hypocrite's Hope, and an Elegy on the Victim of a Cancer Quack, are the best known. He also versified the 88th Psalm in Barlow's collection, which has been much admired for its spirit and justice to the original. As he published nothing with his name, it is difficult to distinguish all the pieces that were written by him. The associates of Hopkins were a large proportion of the ablest men of the state and of the day. Under their exertions and influence, during the last quarter of the eighteenth century, Connecticut was the seat of the muses in the United States; and the political characters were also prominent in the council of the nation. Previous to his death, his friend and one of his literary associates, Dr. Elihu H. Smith, published in one of the London journals a well written sketch of his life and character, which was republished in some of the periodical works of this country. Exclusive of this, it is believed, no authentic account of him has ever appeared. As a number of his friends and later associates still survive, his scattered works might yet be ascertained, collected, and published in a volume by themselves; and since, after Trumbull, the author of *McFingal*, he was the most eminent satirist of his day, they ought to be preserved. Some of his poems may be found in the volume of "American poems;" one on *Ethan Allen*, the *Hypocrite's Hope*, and the *Cancer Quack*. The four most distinguished, that are nearly or quite lost, were his *Political Green House*, the *Anarchiad*, the *Echo* and the *Guillotine*. He left some manuscripts on medical subjects, and particularly one on consumption, which is too valuable to be lost; it is now in the hands of one of his medical friends. The *Echo* was published in a series of newspaper numbers; the *Anarchiad* in twenty-four numbers, and the *Guillotine* in the newspapers of the day. Dr. H. has the credit of devising the plan of the *Anarchiad*; it is a political poem published by the "Hartford wits." *Anarchiad*, the evil spirit of the poem and the hero, was supposed to be the author of all the confusion and political jarring which was so much the order of the day before the states had a confederate head. The object of the poem was to lash certain characters whom the authors supposed either too liberal, or too strict in their notions of government. The characters represented were the very men who figured in those times, and especially in Connecticut. The

speech of Hesper, the best specimen of serious poetry in the work, is preserved in the same volume of American poems with the Hypocrite's Hope and Cancer Quack ; it was an address to the convention of 1787. These poems may be found in the periodical publications from the year 1786 to about 1791, 2, 3.—*Thos. Miner, M.D* ; *Samuel B. Woodward, M.D.*

HOWARD, DR. JOHN CLARKE, was born at Boston, A. D. 1773. His father was the Rev. Dr. Simeon Howard, who was graduated at Harvard, A. D. 1753, and for a number of years was connected with the university as fellow, and as secretary of the board of overseers. He was a sound divine, a classical scholar, and the worthy successor of Dr. Mayhew. His mother, a woman no less remarkable for the qualities of her mind, and her christian virtues, than for her personal charms, was the widow of this celebrated man, and a lineal descendant of Dr. John Clarke, one of the earliest practitioners and first graduated physicians that arrived in this country. Dr. H. the subject of this memoir, was graduated at Cambridge, A. D. 1790, in the class with Joseph Dennie, &c. He pursued his professional studies with Dr. Samuel Danforth, and after receiving his degree, visited Europe.

Dr. Howard was eminently qualified for the profession he had chosen ; he had a sound, discriminating mind, and an affectionate heart. His countenance, strongly marked with good sense and integrity, and beaming with benevolence, at once inspired confidence, and conciliated regard. His simple unaffected manners indicated the ingenuousness of his disposition, and the uprightness and singleness of his purpose ; whilst his tender sympathy and unwearied attention evinced that he had not failed to profit by his own experience of the sufferings incident to feebleness and disease. No one of his profession has been more popular as a practitioner, none more truly loved, or more deeply lamented. He fulfilled the relations of social life, as a son and brother, husband, father, and friend with a fidelity, that endeared him to all who had the happiness of being connected with him. He died August 11th, A. D. 1810, aged 37 years.

HUNTER, WILLIAM, M.D., was a native of Scotland, a near relative of Drs. William and John Hunter, who have done so much for the world's benefit and the honor of the profession. Dr. Hunter was born about the year 1729,



and died at Newport, 1777. He was educated under the elder Monro at Edinburgh, was a contemporary of Cullen, with whom, as well as with his own illustrious kinsman, he corresponded after his removal to this country. He was one of the young men, who, personally addressed and flattered by the Pretender, left their collegiate studies, and followed him to the fatal field of Culloden; a mere boy, he held the place of surgeon's mate, the celebrated Dr. Middleton, formerly of New-York, being his principal. His offence, or treason, was easily forgiven, and he afterwards pursued his studies with great assiduity, both at Edinburgh and Leyden.

He came to Rhode-Island somewhere about the year 1752, gave lectures on anatomy, on the history of anatomy, and comparative anatomy, at Newport, in the years 1754, 5 and 6, which were the first lectures given on the science in New-England, if not in America. Advertisements of these lectures may be seen in the Boston papers of that day. He was soon appointed by the colony of Rhode-Island surgeon to the troops sent by them to Canada, where he rendered important professional services, and afterwards returned to Newport, to reap the fruits of his distinguished and well earned professional fame. He married the daughter of Godfrey Malbone, Esq. one of the most opulent merchants and land proprietors of the country.

Independent of his lectures, his literary contributions in behalf of his profession, were principally letters addressed to his London namesakes; and his name and communications are often referred to by them. He was a most eminently successful practitioner, as well as an operator in surgery; he appeared at that day to be bold and rash, but the truth was, he brought with him from Europe a more exact knowledge of anatomy, and greater chirurgical skill grounded on that knowledge, than existed in the colonies at that period. As to person Dr. Hunter is reported to have been "somewhat too handsome for a *man*;" his manners were courtly and amiable, his opinions liberal, and his literary relaxations were the classics. His medical library was the largest in New-England at his day, and contained most of the standard Greek and Latin authors of antiquity, as well as the modern works of his own time. The latter were mostly dispersed by the accidents of the revolutionary war; what remained of the former have

been distributed to individuals and medical institutions by his only son the Honorable William Hunter, late senator in the Congress of the United States from the State of Rhode-Island. According to the New-York Medical Repository his manuscript lectures are said still to be in existence.

HURLBUT, DR. JAMES, was a native of Berlin in Connecticut, and was born in the year 1717. His advantages of early education were probably no other than such as were ordinarily attainable at that period. It appears, however, that in the course of his life he acquired a knowledge of the Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages ; for on hearing it observed that clergymen, from their learning, possess superior understanding of the true import of the Bible, he remarked that he had read it in as many different languages as any of the clergy. It is supposed that he was permitted to make use of the library of the elder Dr. Osborn of Middletown, where he became acquainted with the works of the celebrated Boerhaave, which he greatly admired, and it is said he committed the greater part of his aphorisms to memory.

He was a man of great and various reading, of extensive and accurate observation, and in consequence of his intimate acquaintance with the writings of Boerhaave, he possessed advantages over most of his contemporaries, which, united to the strength and sagacity of his mind, and a thorough knowledge of the laws of diseases, gave him great celebrity with the Faculty and the public. With the latter he was in high repute, by the former he was considered as an oracle. His attention was not exclusively devoted to the medical profession ; he examined with great attention and research the subjects of moral and natural philosophy, was a thorough scholar in theology, and an able controversialist, although his own opinions were extremely wavering on the subject of religion. Locke on the Human Understanding, Boerhaave and Sydenham in medicine, Bishop Sherlock and Foster in divinity and morals, were his favorite authors. The mechanical arts also received much of his attention, particularly architecture. One of the ablest architects in this country acknowledged the extent of his acquaintance with this department of the arts, and is said to have derived great advantages from intercourse and conversation with him on the subject.

In early life the personal appearance and self-respect of Dr. Hurlbut comported with the conspicuousness of his station ; he possessed considerable property, and had collected a handsome and valuable library. But he was devoid of economy, and set no value upon money ; of course he became destitute, and finally dependent. His books were taken by an officer on attachment to satisfy debts exhibited against him. In the latter part of his life he became a spectacle of wretchedness and despair, and his appearance was like that of a vagrant. A respectable patient of his once said that "he never knew so much good sense covered by a bundle of rags." In his old age he was unable to ride on horseback on account of a diseased leg of long continuance, and he walked with a staff in visiting his patients. His early residence was in Berlin, but the latter part of his life was spent in Wethersfield, where he had many friends and employers on whom he was dependent for support. Many inhabitants of that town, assisted by the public authorities, contributed to his comfort in the season of affliction and want, in a manner least calculated to wound the delicacy of his feelings, or those of his friends. They also afforded a decent burial of his remains in the churchyard of that village. He died at the house of one of his early patrons, of a lingering illness, April 11th, 1794, at the advanced age of 77 years.

In the meridian of his medical fame Dr. Hurlbut was the instructor of many pupils, some of whom attained to eminence. His mind was eccentric, but powerful, acute and discriminating ; his memory was uncommonly active and tenacious, he remembered every thing that ever occurred to him, and being extremely inquisitive he treasured up and retained in his memory a vast fund of facts and anecdotas. On hearing others say that they had known but had forgotten, he would lose all patience and exclaim with vehemence, "You never half knew or you would never forget." It is said of him that after reading a pamphlet or sermon, he would repeat the whole or most of it. As a physician Dr. H. bears the title of one of the fathers of medicine in Connecticut, although he has not favored the profession with any production from his pen.

In his intercourse with his professional brethren, he was overbearing and dogmatical, his own opinions were not to be questioned, nor opposed by any one, he would "go for the whole or not at all." He was not to be employed

to prescribe, and then have the propriety of his prescriptions questioned on any ground. If the attending physician or the friends deviated in the least point from his directions, he would often, upon the discovery of it, take a sudden departure without giving a single reason. His manner with the sick was that of close attention and nice observation of every symptom and every change. He was very particular in examining the pulse, and wished to do it repeatedly, and at different times in the day. He often remained a whole day in the house of his patient, before he would give an opinion, or make a prescription. He maintained that he did not wish the patient to point him to the seat of pain or disease, but he would describe it to the patient; and his knowledge of actual changes in acute diseases, and his predictions of changes founded on that knowledge, were so often seen and verified, as to lead many to suppose him endowed with the gift of prophecy, or foreknowledge. It was rare that he seated himself in any house; it was his custom to walk slowly about the room with his hat on his head, but he was in the habit of uncovering his head when in the presence of a certain clergyman whom he greatly respected. In the latter part of his life he was very attentive to his patients, and when he felt interested in a case, no entreaty would induce him to relinquish his charge. He examined, reflected, read, and remembered so much that almost all changes of which disease is susceptible, were entirely familiar to him. He had a high respect for the members of the learned professions, and an utter contempt for the opinion of the illiterate in the medical profession, and ever detested quackery and imposture.

Many of his prescriptions are yet to be found amongst his early employers, which attest his knowledge of that branch of his profession. Some of his recipes still visit the apothecary shops, having maintained a reputation for half a century. Dr. Hurlbut's knowledge of our indigenous materia medica was probably superior to that of any other physician of his time. The blood root, geranium, the asclepias, the cornus, the trillium, and other native articles, were in common use in his practice. He often directed the *potentilla norvegica* in strangury and other affections of the urinary organs under the common name of dropwort, and from repeated trials the writer is of opinion that it is more useful than *uva ursi*.

All who have heard of Dr. Hurlbut, have been acquainted with his strong attachment to the use of ardent spirits and opium. In speaking of his intemperance, the common expression is, "a square bottle of rum a day!" He would not prescribe or even look at a patient in the last years of his life, till the full bottle was placed in his entire control, and daily replenished; it was his practice to take very frequently small potations, and at the same time swallow enormous quantities of opium. For many of his last years all the avails of his medical practice were expended in the purchase of this one drug; his spirits he obtained from his employers, which was a heavy tax, and he probably took as much opium as the most devoted Turk. He was rarely intoxicated, and when so much under the influence of alcohol as not to be able to stand, his mind would appear to be clear, and his judgment unimpaired. When in the attire of a vagrant, he walked about supported by his staff, lame, filthy and miserable; if his attention was engaged in any subject of learning, or branch of science, he would exhibit such resources of information, such powers of logic, such judicious and sensible remark, as would astonish all his auditors, and particularly surprise strangers.

Such was Dr. James Hurlbut, the greatest genius, perhaps, that could be found in the ranks of the medical profession in Connecticut during the last century. A man, the bright side of whose character exhibited a lustre in science, and original conceptions of mind, that would not suffer in comparison with the brightest ornaments of European fame. Tarnished on the other by indulgence in the grossest and most degrading vice; and thereby sunk down to the lowest state of human wretchedness, poverty and disease, dependant upon charity for support, and dying without the means to procure decent interment, and now lying without a stone to tell us where!—*S. B. Woodward, M. D.*

HUTCHINSON, JAMES, M.D. was born in Wakefield township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of January, 1752. His education commenced first under Paul Preston, then a distinguished teacher, was continued at the Burlington, New-Jersey, academy, and at another in Virginia, and finished at the College of Philadelphia, where he obtained the first honor when he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He studied medicine under

Dr. Evans of Philadelphia, and finished his studies in London under the particular patronage and direction of the celebrated Dr. John Fothergill. In the year 1774 the trustees of the Philadelphia College, presented him with a gold medal for his superior knowledge in chemistry.\*

While he was pursuing his studies in Europe, the disputes between England and the American colonies were approaching a crisis, which he saw must end in an open rupture. The prospect of this event hastened his return to his native country, the cause of which he warmly espoused. He returned home by the way of France, and was entrusted with important despatches from Dr. Franklin, the American minister there, to the Congress of the United States; when near the American coast the ship in which he was passenger, was chased by a British armed ship, and being anxious to save the despatches he left the vessel in an open boat under a heavy fire from the enemy, and landed safely. A short time after he escaped from the vessel, she was captured by the enemy in sight, and he lost every thing he had, including a fine medical library which he had collected in England and France. He joined the American army soon after he arrived, and served as a surgeon and physician during the whole of the war.

A change in the establishment of the University of Pennsylvania was effected in the year 1779, and he was appointed one of its trustees by the legislature, and continued a member of the board until his death. He was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society and served several years as one of its secretaries. In the year 1789 the corporate rights of the old college, academy and charitable school of Philadelphia, which had been suspended by the establishment of the University of Pennsylvania, were restored, and a medical department being attached to each institution, Dr. Hutchinson filled the chair of *Materia Medica* and *Chemistry* in the University, and upon the union of the two institutions and the new organization of the medical faculty in 1791, he was elected Professor of Chemistry. He held the office of physician of the port for many years, and until his death. He was also for several

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\* The medal presented to him had on one side a laurel branch with this inscription on the exergue, "Jacobus Hutchinson, 1774." On the reverse, a retort: on the exergue, *NATURÆ ARTISQUE ARCANÆ RETEXI.—Coll. Philad.*

years one of the physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital, and was continued until his decease. He possessed eminent talents as a physician and surgeon ; and was fitted for the exercise of his profession, by his natural amiability of temper, pleasant address and agreeable manners.

Dr. Hutchinson took a warm part in the local politics of Pennsylvania, both during the American war and after the peace. He belonged to the democratic party, and possessed great influence. But although often solicited to fill respectable offices at the choice of the people, he always declined the compliment. After the evacuation of the city of Philadelphia by the British, he was called upon as one of the committee of safety to arrange the affairs of the city, and was active in that capacity. He was the intimate and confidential friend of the leading men of the revolution, and was at all times received at head quarters and often invited to give his advice by the commander in chief relative to the medical department. He died of the yellow fever on the 6th of September, 1793.

He married Miss Sydney Howell, the daughter of a respectable citizen of Philadelphia, and left two sons, one now Consul of the United States at Lisbon, the other a lawyer resident in Philadelphia. His widow survives him. He was an excellent husband, a fond father, and a most generous and humane man.

JACKSON, DR. CLEMENT, was esteemed one of the most eminent physicians in Portsmouth, N. H., and indeed in the state. He had laid the best foundation for professional knowledge, which the limited advantages in this country then afforded ; and possessing a discriminating mind and habituating himself to accurate observation, he soon became acquainted with the diseases prevalent in this climate, and the best method of treating them. His disposition was amiable, his benevolence universal, his practice extensive, and he was truly "a man greatly beloved." He died the 10th October, 1788, in the 83d year of his age.

JACKSON, HALL, M.D. M.M.S.S. Hon., son of the above, was born in Portsmouth, and received the rudiments of his education in his native town. He studied the theory of his profession under his excellent father ; after which he went to London and attended the lectures in the hospitals for three years, to perfect himself in his profession. While here he received honorable notice from the

Faculty for an ingenious invention by which a ball was extracted from a gunshot wound, which had baffled the skill of all the surgeons.

After his return to his native town he soon became eminent, more especially as a surgeon. No operation of importance was performed for many miles round, without consulting him, and seldom without his aid. He had great experience in the smallpox, had the superintendence of many hospitals for inoculating with that disease, and was remarkably successful in conducting his patients safely through its stages. In the year 1764 he resided two or three months in Boston, where he inoculated several classes and carried them safely through, which added much to his reputation in the commencement of his medical career. His reputation as an accoucheur was deservedly high, and often called him into families which he did not usually attend. He was the first surgeon who ever attempted, in that part of our country, if not in America, the operation of couching the eye ; this operation he frequently performed and always with success. He was remarkable for his friendship, his readiness to advise, instruct and patronise all young physicians within the sphere of his acquaintance, whom he considered worthy to be countenanced.

Harvard University conferred on him the degree of M.D. in 1793, and placed his name among her honorary graduates with the class of 1757. The Massachusetts Medical Society elected him an honorary member of their body. He was Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons at the time of his decease. His sprightly talents, lively imagination, social habits and strong memory, rendered him a welcome guest in every circle ; facetious and pleasant, his friends enjoyed in his company the "feast of reason and flow of wit ;" and the several societies of which he was a member, found their entertainment greatly heightened by his presence. When visiting his patients he was overset in his gig, and some of his ribs were fractured ; this resulted in the termination of his useful life, in the 58th year of his age. He died September 28th, 1797.

Dr. Jackson was author of a small tract containing observations on the putrid malignant sore throat, which prevailed in New-Hampshire from 1784 to 1786 inclusively, but it was published without his name. He was the first surgeon of his country, it is believed, who introduced the method of healing wounds by the first intention ; and if



it was not till the practice had been tried in Europe, with him it was entirely original and the result of experiment and observation. Dr. Jackson was one of the first, if not the earliest physician who introduced the use and cultivation of foxglove into New England. In a letter to the present author, dated April 29th, 1789, he says, "with much pleasure I send you some of the seeds of foxglove, and some of the leaves of the same for your trial of its efficacy until you can cultivate it. It is a beautiful flower in a garden, and has arrived at full perfection in my garden from seeds sent me by Dr. Withering." Dr. Jackson was then in correspondence with Dr. Withering, an eminent English physician, from whom he received the article with directions for its use and culture.

JARVIS, CHARLES, M.M.S.S. This gentleman was born in Boston in 1748, and was the third son of Colonel Leonard Jarvis, an eminent merchant of that place. At an early age he discerned in his son singular marks of genius and strength of mind, and in consequence determined to educate him for one of the learned professions. Accordingly, he was sent to the Public Latin School in Boston; entered Harvard College at the age of fourteen, and received the customary degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1766. His diffidence in youth was so remarkable, that until he had nearly completed his collegiate studies, he mingled in conversation in company reluctantly, and spoke with embarrassment. This may appear the more extraordinary, since as he advanced in years, he became decided in his opinions, and distinguished for fluency, energy and copiousness of speech.

Mr. Jarvis on leaving college determined on the study of physic; and in this choice his parents concurred, entertaining apprehensions of his success at the bar on account of his uncommon diffidence. He commenced his studies with Dr. Perkins, a learned and distinguished physician of Boston; who shortly after going to England, he finished them with Dr. Joseph Gardner. After he had completed the usual course of study, he went to England, where he was thoroughly prepared by lectures and practical courses in physic and surgery for the duties of his profession.

On his return he commenced the practice in his native town, and perhaps no young man of his time was better fitted for his vocation. He had not contented himself with

the mere routine of his collegiate and professional studies ; but, possessing a taste for reading, and a desire of knowledge, he devoted nearly all his spare time to searching the fields of science and literature. Having always enjoyed the advantages of the best society, he was affable and elegant in his manners ; and, being by nature frank and sincere, he was peculiarly engaging in his intercourse with society. In conversation he developed extensive and varied resources, and was remarkable for the ease and brilliancy of his wit and repartee.

With such endowments and qualifications, he immediately entered into a highly respectable and successful practice, and could early number among his patients some of the most opulent and fashionable families in the town. In his practice Dr. Jarvis was not an implicit follower of systems. He had studied with care Hippocrates, Aretæus, and Celsus, and favorably considered their practice, so far as it related to the diseases of his own time. Indeed he was not inclined to countenance hasty departures from it. He did not, however, oppose the more modern discoveries and improvements, but availed himself of the advantages they afforded. He was particularly attentive to investigate the remote, as well as proximate causes of the complaints, for which he was to administer ; and in discerning the peculiar habits and diatheses of the sick he seemed to possess intuitive skill and perspicacity. His prescriptions were generally simple. He was opposed to the use of a variety of medicines and remedies, and would often remark that he only wanted opium, antimony, mercury, cantharides, bark and the lancet, in the general course of his practice, aided by judicious nursing and regimen.

In the practice of physic, as in the profession of arms, the quality called the coup d'œil, is sometimes important. This enables the physician, as well as the general, to collect all the circumstances of the case, and from this combination to draw some conclusion, which often favorably decides it. These sudden conclusions are sometimes called lucky thoughts, but ordinary minds are not usually blest with such fortunate emanations. The doctor was somewhat remarkable for this description of resource, and many instances might be adduced to illustrate its happy effects upon patients at the point of death. In surgery, on account of the many advantages he derived from practice and observation in the English hospitals, and availing himself of the improve-

ments of the French in this art, he performed the most difficult operations with uncommon dexterity and success. But he never resorted to the knife, while any rational hope remained of bettering the condition of the patient. In various cases, where he decided against operating in opposition to the opinion of others, he saved limbs and effected cures.

On the accession of Mr. Jefferson to the presidency Dr. Jarvis was appointed Physician and Surgeon to the Marine Hospital at Charlestown.

In the year 1773 Dr. Jarvis married the sister of Sir William Pepperell, and granddaughter of Sir William Pepperell who took Louisburg in 1756. This was a loyal family, and left this country for England about the time hostilities commenced. But the doctor was true to the cause of his country, notwithstanding that flattering inducements were held out to give his principles a different direction. Dr. Jarvis's liberality was evinced by advocating, in the legislature, the recall of those unfortunate men who had been exiled for an adherence to the enemy; by defending the toleration of theatrical representations; and by his friendly aid to schools and seminaries of learning. He was a member of the state convention that adopted the federal constitution, and was for several years a member of the state legislature, until 1796 when he declined being a candidate on account of ill health. It may be truly said that he had uncommon qualifications for public life. He possessed quickness of perception and acute penetration, and was a very powerful and impressive orator. He had the advantages of a fine person, countenance and voice, and spoke with fluency, accuracy and elegance. As his head was bald and finely shaped, his nose aquiline, and his countenance remarkable for its expression, he was called by a gentleman of taste and learning, in compliment to his manner and appearance, the Bald Eagle of the Boston seat, an appellation by which he was afterwards familiarly known. The doctor entered with great zeal into the political events of his time, and was popular, until his opinions in regard to Jay's treaty and the French revolution, left him in the minority. He favored the cause of France through all her mutations, and, whether in democratic disorder or under imperial misrule, he thought her success was more propitious to the rights of man, than that of her allied enemies; and that there was no danger of changing for

the worse by breaking the galling chains of the old governments. Upon the last day of his existence, when he had given up all hopes of life, he remarked, with composure, that "he should not die, like a certain French philosopher, who boasted that he died without hope and without fear; for though he should die without fear, he should not without hope." In his last illness, which lasted but two or three days, during which he was subjected to the most excruciating pain, he behaved with exemplary patience, fortitude and resignation. He watched the progress of his own disease to the last, and, what is remarkable, as he raised himself up in his bed, he remarked "I am gone, for my mind wanders;" he then threw himself out of his bed, with much muscular strength, rose upon his feet, and fell dead into the arms of an attendant, on the 15th day of November, 1807.

JEFFRIES, JOHN, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born at Boston on the 5th of February, 1744. He was the third son of David Jeffries, Esq. (who for more than thirty years honorably filled the office of town treasurer) and Sarah, daughter of George Jaffrey, Esq. of Portsmouth. At an early age he was adopted by his uncle, the Hon. John Jeffries, who placed him under the care of Mr. Lovell, a popular and experienced tutor. In 1759 he entered the University of Cambridge, where he was graduated with its first honors, and immediately afterwards commenced his medical studies under Dr. Lloyd.

The smallpox, which raged at this period with uncommon violence, afforded him an ample field for observation and improvement. A close and careful investigation of this disease induced him to consider it as one of the most important that could afflict mankind; not on account of its general fatality, but because its regular stages furnished data, which tended to elucidate many of those anomalous symptoms of other diseases, that perplex and baffle the most experienced practitioners; and the principles he deduced therefrom, as he has remarked frequently, "stood him in good stead" at the bedside of his patients. While under the tuition of Dr. Lloyd, Mr. Jeffries was sent by his instructor to attend the Smallpox Hospital on Castle Island, where the following accidental occurrence afforded him an opportunity of evincing that peculiar talent of attributing effects to their proper causes, and of founding rational theories on practical observations, which subse-





quently marked the course of a long and successful professional career. Four of his patients, in the delirium of the most active stage of smallpox, escaping from their attendants, proceeded across the flats and plunged into the channel ; they were, however, rescued from the water and brought back to their apartments ; favorable symptoms immediately succeeded, and, although many of the other patients fell victims to the malignity of the disease, these all speedily recovered. Reflecting deeply on the manner in which this beneficial effect was produced, Mr. Jeffries was convinced that the popular mode of treating inflammatory affections was erroneous, and he therefore successfully resorted to the antiphlogistic practice, before advocated and since adopted by the most distinguished practitioners of Europe.

The degree of Master of Arts having been conferred upon him by the University of Cambridge, Mr. Jeffries arrived at that important period when the principles he had imbibed as a pupil, were to be submitted to the test of more extensive professional practice ; on their correctness and efficacy depended every hope of future success : the event exceeded his most sanguine expectations. Unaided by friends, and devoid of private patronage, he speedily obtained, by his merit and exertions, a considerable share of town and country practice. The first entry in his professional day book, of which the whole is extant, was made on the 16th of March, 1766, from which time his emoluments were progressively increasing.

But notwithstanding these flattering prospects, his ambition to excel in his profession impelled him to visit the medical schools of Europe ; he accordingly embarked for England, and placed himself under the tuition of Dr. William Saunders, whose lectures on chemistry and on the theory and practice of physic, have been justly celebrated. He also sedulously attended two courses of lectures on anatomy and surgery, by Mr. Joseph Else ; twelve courses on the theory and practice of midwifery, by Dr. Colin Mackenzie ; and officiated for twelve months, as dresser at Guy's Hospital, under Messrs. Way, Smith, Else and Martin. From all these distinguished professors he then received testimonials of approbation, and subsequently enjoyed their friendship and esteem. On the first of June, 1769, having written and defended a Latin dissertation, the University of Aberdeen conferred on him the degree

of Doctor of Physic, he being, as it is believed, the first native of the American provinces who obtained that honorable rank.

In the same year he recommenced his professional labors in Boston, with very great success. His friend, Admiral Montague, commander in chief of the naval forces on the North American station, appointed him in 1771 assistant surgeon of the *Captain*, ship of the line, then lying in the harbor, and having her hospital on shore, which he regularly attended until the 30th of June, 1774, when the vessel changing her station, Captain Symonds, her commander, sent him a handsome written acknowledgment of the benefits which the service had derived from the exercise of his skill in surgery and medicine. At the commencement of the American revolution, having previously acquired the principal share of military patronage, he was professionally engaged by the commander in chief of the British forces; and many of those who were wounded at the dreadful conflict on Bunker's Hill, both Americans and British, experienced the advantage of his skill and attention. He identified to General Howe, the lifeless body of the lamented Warren.

The British garrison having evacuated Boston, Dr. Jeffries accompanied their general to Halifax, who on the 24th of May, 1776, conferred on him the appointment of Surgeon General to the forces in Nova Scotia, to which on the 21st of August, 1778, was added by his friend, General Eyre Massey, commander in chief of the province, that of Purveyor General to the Hospitals; and in December following, he received from the British government the rank and pay of Apothecary General. While he filled these important stations, and largely benefited by their incidental private practice, he eagerly availed himself of every opportunity to alleviate the afflictions of his captured countrymen, as appears from the numerous grateful letters and other documents found among his papers. The commander in chief ordered fifteen hundred men to be inoculated for the smallpox at one time, which was accomplished without any loss, for which service he received a letter of thanks and voluntary certificate sent by General Massey when about to sail for Europe. Having obtained leave to return to Europe, he and his family embarked on board the *Iris* frigate, commanded by his intimate acquaintance, Captain Keppel; and, after a dan-



gerous voyage of twenty-eight days, landed at Portsmouth on the 28th of March, 1779.

His stay in England, however, was but of short duration. His friend General Massey had spoken so favorably of his abilities to the Secretary of War and other leading members of the government, that he was ordered to be examined at Surgeon's Hall on the first day of July following, preparatory to his receiving the appointment of Surgeon Major to the forces in America, a newly created office. He accordingly underwent a rigid examination by the celebrated John Hunter and other distinguished professors, at the conclusion of which he was told by the president, Mr. Hunter, that his answers and observations did infinite honor, not only to himself, but to his instructors, and that he would be reported in every way qualified for the important office for which he was destined by government. Mr. Hunter invited him to attend a capital operation which he was about to perform; and, during the remainder of his stay in London, he daily witnessed the operations and dissections of that eminent surgeon. Having received his commission, he embarked on board the Raleigh frigate, Captain Gambier, on the 4th day of October, 1779, and sailed in company with the Richmond for Cork, to collect a fleet of transports which they were to convoy across the Atlantic. Here he had the happiness of meeting his esteemed friend General Massey, now commander in chief on this station, whose former kindness he partly repaid by essential professional services.

Contrary winds and the delays incident to collecting a fleet of transports, detained the Raleigh and Richmond at Cork for a considerable time, during which Dr. Jeffries was actively and profitably employed by the military and by numerous families in the vicinity; from some of whom he obtained recommendatory letters to the commanding officers and other distinguished persons in America.

At length he re-embarked, and proceeding to sea on the 24th of December, arrived at Savannah on the 17th of the succeeding February; here, however, he did not land, but proceeded to Charleston, South Carolina, and on the 11th of March joined the grand army under Sir Henry Clinton, who ordered him back to Savannah, where his services were urgently required, numerous important surgical operations waiting his arrival. The opportunity he here enjoyed of observing the progress of inflammation and dis-

ease in a hot climate, materially benefited his future practice, particularly during the torrid summers of his native state.

He now received intelligence of a severe domestic affliction, which rendered him extremely anxious to return to England. As a preparatory step, he solicited and, with some difficulty, obtained an order for his removal to New-York, where, after having again visited Charleston, he arrived in the Beaumont man of war, on the 14th of July, 1780, and was immediately employed at the head of the surgical department. His private practice also became so extensive, that he received from Dr. Baillie, who has since become one of the most eminent physicians of Europe, very advantageous proposals to join him in a permanent medical establishment ; the motives which urged him to visit England were irresistible. Having resigned his commission in favor of Mr. Loring, surgeon of the hospital, he obtained a passage on board the Yarmouth of sixty-four guns, and, much to the regret of his American friends, recrossed the Atlantic ocean, and on the 26th of December, 1780, safely landed at Falmouth. Soon after his return he was appointed by Lord McCartney as his private physician and head of the medical staff then about to embark for India, a situation which in a short period would have afforded extensive wealth and gratified every wish for fame ; but his love for his native place and the hopes of returning there, prevailed over these flattering prospects, and it was accordingly declined.

The following anecdote evinced a laudable state of feeling in relation to his professional obligations. He had become particularly acquainted with a family of high rank and station in consequence of preserving the life of a son in his own country. During one of his visits he witnessed much suffering from the advice of an eminent professional gentleman to one of the family ; he promptly interposed, and immediately afforded the relief which he asserted was withheld from indolence under the weight of a great name. On the following morning he received a note requesting him to consider himself as the physician of the family, and was informed that a chariot was at the door which he must accept, as they could not be regularly attended by a physician who walked. This he promptly, but courteously, declined, observing that he wished to stand upon his own merit, and not to rise by the adventi-

tious aids to which some of the profession resorted. In the course of his practice in America, Dr. Jeffries had essentially benefited the honorable Captain Fielding, who gave him a letter of introduction to his relation, Lady Charlotte Finch. This lady filling an exalted station in the house of the Queen, her patronage and influence were extensive, and she gratefully exerted both in the service of her relation's benefactor. She introduced and strongly recommended him to the royal physicians, Drs. Turtton and Warren, from both of whom he subsequently received much kindness and attention. They consulted with him as to the best means of promoting his future interests : Dr. Warren advised him to conform to the usual custom of the metropolis, and confine himself to a particular department of the profession. Although of opinion that the several branches, in as much as they tended to elucidate and assist each other, should always be united, he thought it prudent to follow this friendly advice, and finally determined to confine his attention to midwifery and the diseases of children. His American friends, however, insisted upon his violating this determination, and he in consequence procured a special license to practice also in surgery and medicine.

He was busily engaged at this time, not only in storing his mind with useful professional knowledge, but in philosophical enquiry and scientific research. Pursuing such objects he was led to undertake two aërial voyages, which originated in an ardent desire to ascertain experimentally the correctness of certain preconceived hypotheses relative to atmospheric temperature and the practicability of some aërostatic improvements which had suggested themselves to his inventive imagination. The first voyage was on the 13th of November, 1784, from the Rhedorium near Grosvenor Square, London, into the Parish of Stowe in the county of Kent. The second voyage was on the 7th of January, 1785, from the cliffs of Dover across the British channel into the forest of Guines in the Province of Artois in France, and was the first successful attempt to cross the sea par la route de l'air. These engagements were not without professional advantages ; for, besides procuring him the notice of the King of France, the personal civilities of the unfortunate Maria Antoinette, and the friendship of the Duke of Dorset, the British ambassador, they obtained him an introduction to all the

learned and scientific societies of Paris, of which he was elected an honorary member, and facilitated his access to the medical and anatomical schools of that intellectual metropolis. But his duty to his patients in England, urged his speedy return to that country. He drew up a paper, detailing the result of his various experiments, and presented it to the Royal Society, before whom it was read with much approbation. Dr. Blagden, secretary of that learned body, had assisted him with many valuable hints previously to his first ascension, and was subsequently most active in promoting his professional interests, observing that a private individual, who had voluntarily expended so large a sum in the cause of useful science, was truly worthy of public patronage. The collateral benefits that resulted from his aerial expeditions, were greater than he expected ; they secured him the interest of Sir Joseph Banks, President of the Royal Society, the Duchess of Devonshire, and other powerful friends.

His practice and his reputation rapidly increased from this period until the summer of 1789, when he received letters urging the necessity of his immediately repairing to Boston, to secure some property which had devolved to him by the death of a near relative ; in compliance with which he embarked on board the ship *Lucretia*, on the 13th of August, in that year, and on the 11th of November following arrived in his native town. He was affectionately welcomed by his earliest medical instructor and many others, for whom, in the days of his youth, he had formed a sincere attachment. The entreaties of his friends, and the love of his native town, prevailed over his successful practice in London, and on the 11th of April, 1790, he resolved to establish himself once more as a medical practitioner in Boston. The political animosities resulting from the recent successful struggle for independence had not yet subsided ; and few individuals who, like him, had filled offices of high responsibility under the British government, during the greater part of the conflict, would have ventured to make an experiment of such doubtful success ; but he felt that, while he had honorably discharged his duty towards those in whose service he had been before the commencement of the revolution, he had neglected no opportunity, consistent with that duty, of benefiting his countrymen ; and he now confidently relied upon their justice and liberality. To the honor of both

parties, this confidence was amply repaid ; and he speedily acquired the esteem and professional patronage of a large proportion of the most respectable population of Boston and its vicinity.

Dr. Jeffries was eminent as a surgeon, midwife and physician. He became early attached to anatomy, and, it is believed, delivered the first public lecture in this branch in Boston. It was, however, but a single one ; for on the second evening a mob having collected, entered his anatomical room and carried off in triumph his subject, which was the body of a convict given him by the governor after execution. This study he pursued with attention up to the period of his death ; many of his most valuable preparations were made but a few years before his decease. From his acquaintance with William Hunter, he probably adopted the principles of that great man. His surgical records show that he had early learned that but little action was required to carry inflammation to its adhesive stage ; his mode of dressing after operations was always light and cool. He was opposed to the knife when possible to avoid it, averring that more skill was required to save, than to remove a limb ; by which he escaped that fondness for operation to which he was exposed by the extent of his surgical practice in the English hospitals. Midwifery he regarded as the handmaid of medicine. He considered the regular constitutional changes effected by nature in the various stages of gestation, and her extraordinary efforts to afford relief, as loadstars, not only in this particular department of his profession, but in the investigation of other constitutional changes under nature's guidance, which his intelligence discovered to be analogous. In the medical department he was much afraid of visionary speculation. He was, however, an ardent promoter of physiological inquiry, and readily adopted rational improvements. His own systems in medicine were what Lord Bacon's were in moral philosophy ; being chiefly founded on inductive reasoning. The vast importance which he attached to the chylopoietic viscera, was a distinguishing peculiarity of his physiological opinions. To the digestive organs he referred for an explanation of many of the phenomena in the animal economy ; regarding them as the emanating point of most morbid affections, he was enabled to establish those pathological principles upon which was founded the successful administration of cathartic remedies.

The sick chamber was the point to which all his attainments were made to bear, and for this he was particularly qualified, not only by the experience of practice, but by the more solid experience of reflection. The name of the disease lost much of its weight when he prescribed ; the actual state of the system at the time was the subject of investigation and the object of relief.

He was never known to refuse a professional call, but bestowed his attentions indiscriminately on the poor and the rich. This enabled him to educate a large number of pupils, and gave them what he considered most highly necessary, a good opportunity for practical improvement. Had he been fond of public life, his talents, attainments and attention would have added much more to his public usefulness : but he resisted every effort of his friends to place him before the public as a professor or as an author. A proof of his industry is found in the fact that he kept for more than forty years a surgical diary of all but unimportant cases ; a medical diary of every serious affection ; a history of nearly two thousand cases in midwifery ; and a meteorological journal noted three times a day.

After an uninterrupted and successful practice of fifty-three years, he was seized with an inflammation in his bowels, originating in a hernia, occasioned by great exertions in his first aerial voyage ; which defying the skill of able and friendly brethren, he died on the 16th of September, 1819, aged 76, deeply lamented, but most by those who knew him best.

JONES, JOHN, M.D. The family of Dr. Jones was of Welsh extraction, and of the religious society of Friends. His grandfather, Edward Jones, who was a physician of eminence in his native country, married Mary, the eldest daughter of Thomas Wynne, who was likewise a physician, and one of the original settlers in Pennsylvania.

Their son Evan, the father of the subject of these memoirs, studied medicine with his father, and practised it many years in Merion ; for causes not known he removed to the city of New-York, and afterwards to Long Island, and there married Mary, the daughter of Mr. Stephenson, by whom he had four sons ; John, Thomas, Evan and James.

John Jones was born in the town of Jamaica, Long Island, in the year 1729 ; and received his education partly

from his excellent parents, but chiefly at a private school in the city of New-York. He was early led, both by the advice of his father and his own inclination, to the study of medicine, and was placed under the care of the late Dr. Thomas Cadwallader, of Philadelphia, with whom he continued during the period of his studies in this country.

Dr. Jones early indicated an attachment for that profession, which at a subsequent period he cultivated with so much ardor, by his fondness for anatomical researches; and though, as it may be readily supposed, these could only be of the comparative kind, yet it is a remarkable fact, that this love for pursuits of the same nature, has been noticed in the youth of some of the most distinguished anatomists that ever lived.

At the age of eighteen years he began to study medicine under the above mentioned physician. This country then afforded no opportunity, by means of public institutions, of increasing the knowledge of the student. The private practice of physicians was almost the only source from whence the student could derive any practical information; to this Dr. Jones paid the greatest attention, and I have heard that his preceptor bore testimony to the assiduity and marks of early genius in his pupil; and predicted from them his future eminence in his profession.

After completing his studies in this country, Dr. Jones visited Europe, in order to improve himself still further in his profession. He first went to London, and there attended the lectures of Dr. William Hunter, M'Kenzie, and others, who were then eminent in the several branches which they taught; and the practice of the different hospitals, particularly that of St. Bartholomew, of which Mr. Pott was senior surgeon, and in the height of reputation. From London he went to France, where he arrived in May 1751; and obtained the degree of Doctor in Medicine from the University of Rheims. He then proceeded to Paris, where he remained until the month of April in the following year; and attended the anatomical lectures of Mr. Petit and the practice of the Hotel Dieu, of which well known institution, Messrs. Le Cat and Le Dran were then surgeons. He afterwards spent some time at the University of Leyden, and finally visited Edinburgh, which completed his medical tour.

Under masters like these, and enjoying such opportunities, he could not fail, with the assiduity which he em-

ployed, of acquiring all the knowledge at that time to be obtained. In consequence of the zeal which he showed in the acquisition of every species of useful knowledge, he attracted the notice of the above celebrated surgeons, which was of essential benefit to him in the prosecution of his studies : to Mr. Pott in particular he considered himself under peculiar obligations for the marks of friendship he experienced from him.

During the prosecution of his studies in Europe, Dr. Jones was industrious in collecting all the useful information in his power, especially upon those branches of science more immediately connected with his profession. To anatomy, as the handmaid of surgery, and the basis of medical science, he paid the greatest attention ; but he did not suffer this to engross the whole of his time ; convinced of the intimate connexion between the different branches of the profession, he considered the separation of them as highly detrimental to the progress of the science, and therefore believed that a knowledge of the one part, was indispensably requisite to a right understanding of the other.

Upon the return of Dr. Jones to this country, he settled in New-York, where his abilities soon procured him extensive practice. To the profession of surgery, in particular, he devoted much attention : he was the first who performed the operation of lithotomy in that city, and succeeded so well in several cases that offered shortly after his return, that his fame as an operator became generally known throughout the middle and eastern states of America. The operation had likewise been frequently attempted in the other states ; but the want of success attending it was generally so great, as to prevent it from being performed there in future ; the fortunate manner, however, in which those cases under his care succeeded, fully proved that it was no longer the dangerous operation many had been made to apprehend, an opinion which induced them rather to submit to a miserable life, than to suffer the risk of falling a sacrifice to the means instituted for their relief.

In the year 1755, during the existence of a war between France and the colonies, as a part of the British dominions, a considerable alarm was occasioned by the report of an intended attack of the enemy upon the frontiers of the state ; and Dr. Jones, among others, entered as a volunteer



surgeon to the troops raised upon the occasion. In that capacity he served with distinguished reputation until the close of the campaign. In a severe repulse which the French suffered on the borders of Lake George, from the American and British troops under Sir William Johnson, General Dieskau, commander of the French, was dangerously wounded, and being taken prisoner, immediately placed himself under the care of Dr. Jones, who carefully attended him for a considerable time in New-York.\* At the close of the campaign he again returned to private practice with increased reputation; and some years after, upon the establishment of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, was elected one of its first members.

Upon the institution of a medical school in the College of New-York, Dr. Jones was appointed professor of surgery, upon which branch he gave several courses of lectures, and thereby diffused a taste for it among the students, and made known the improved modes of practice lately adopted in Europe, with which most of the practitioners in this country were entirely unacquainted. Viewing the science in an enlarged and honorable light, as tending to the alleviation and abridgment of human misery, he taught his pupils to despise the servile conduct of those, who consider the profession as worthy of cultivation, only in proportion to the emoluments which it yields; and to rely upon the solidity of their own endowments, as the best security of general esteem, and for acquisition of business. He could with propriety recommend the pursuit of this conduct to others, having in his own person furnished an instance of its success, and on an occasion also, which, though trifling in itself, deserves to be recorded as a proof of the triumph of abilities over ignorance and pride.

At an early date of Dr. Jones's settlement in New-York, some of the physicians entered into a resolution to distinguish themselves from the rest of their fellow citizens by a particular mode of wearing their hair; and among the rest, it was proposed to Dr. Jones; but instead of receiv-

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\* Professor Silliman in his tour to Canada, in a note makes a query as to the death of Baron Dieskau. It appears in the Pennsylvania Journal, January 14th, 1768, that the Baron died at Surene, in France, on the 8th September, 1768. His death is said to have been occasioned by the wounds he received on the 8th September, 1755, in the battle of Lake George. His name was John Harmand, and he had attained the high rank of Lieut. General in the French army.

ing his assent, the principle of it was strongly opposed by him. Persuaded of the dignity of the medical character in itself, he did not see the need of calling in artificial aid to increase it, and therefore refused to consent to the plan, and insisted upon the great impropriety of establishing any external mark to distinguish them from the rest of mankind. He declared at the same time, that he considered that and every similar means to impose upon the weakness or credulity of others, as unworthy the members of a liberal profession, and as intended to enforce that attention and respect, which their own conduct and abilities should always command. While the rest of the practitioners, therefore, were seen strutting about in their new fashioned bob, Dr. Jones could not be distinguished from any well bred gentleman of another profession. It might be naturally supposed that the persons who were weak enough to enter into the resolution, would likewise be capable of the low passion of envy, and seek for a proper occasion of revenge upon those who should dissent. This was actually the case in the present instance ; for the consequence of Dr. Jones's refusal to adopt the plan, was an agreement among the rest, not to consult with him. This resolution, however, was of but little avail ; for one of the associates, on expressing this determination to a respectable citizen in whose sick room they happened to meet, was, to his great mortification, unexpectedly dismissed, and Dr. Jones was retained. Such a compliment, paid to the abilities of a young man, must have been flattering in the extreme ; and so effectually did the disclosure of the scene operate, and so general was the ridicule which followed, that the object of the association was entirely defeated ; and the members were under the necessity of wearing their hair like the rest of their fellow citizens.

The same principle which actuated Dr. Jones in the trifling circumstance of refusing to distinguish himself from the rest of his fellow citizens, by any peculiar self created badge, actuated him in matters upon a larger scale. Pure in his principles as a republican, he considered titles as the pageantry of coxcombs, and like the royal stamp set upon false coin ; by covering much base metal, instead of creating respect, they serve to detract from the little honor to which their possessors might otherwise be entitled.

For a considerable part of the previous life of Dr. Jones, he had been afflicted by the asthma, and for a long time had struggled to overcome that painful disease ; but the exertions of both his own skill, and of the rest of his medical brethren, in most parts of the continent, had hitherto proved ineffectual towards even his relief. He determined therefore to take a voyage to Europe, and accordingly sailed for London. Here, in a thick smoke, and an impure atmosphere where so many asthmatics have found such remarkable benefit, he also experienced a considerable alleviation of his complaint ; and probably the permanent alteration in his health which he afterwards enjoyed, may in some measure be attributed to the effects of his residence in London. He also employed himself during his continuance in the metropolis in collecting subscriptions for a hospital in New-York, which he had been chiefly instrumental in establishing.

In London he again had an opportunity of seeing his friend Mr. Pott, at the head of his profession, and of renewing that intercourse which had been previously commenced between them. He had now been for some years left to the guidance of his own judgment ; but, unlike many who suppose all knowledge to become stationary at the time of their leaving college, he was still willing to be taught by those who had formerly been his instructors, and who, from the greater opportunities they enjoyed, would be enabled to afford him much information. Eager for the acquisition of knowledge, whenever and wherever it was to be obtained, he again attended the lectures of his old master Dr. Hunter, and those of his friend Mr. Pott, who lost no opportunity of showing the consistency between his professions and proofs of respect : during his short stay there he paid Dr. Jones the most particular attention, and presented him with a complete copy of his lectures, just before his departure from London. His kindness, however, did not end here ; for in the frequent applications which he received for advice from all parts of this country, in difficult and important cases, he never failed to recommend his old pupil, as capable of affording any relief to be derived from surgical assistance. In consequence of this his attendance was frequently desired in the different states ; and while he showed by his skill and success that the opinion which had been formed of him

was just, his fame became thereby diffused throughout the continent of America.

The following year he returned to his native country, the political situation of which at that time called loudly for the exertions of all her citizens. He again resumed his lectures, and delivered several courses, and in the autumn of the next year, 1775, published his "Plain Remarks upon Wounds and Fractures," which he inscribed to his old preceptor Dr. Cadwallader in a neat dedication.\* A work of this kind which would give the young practitioner clear notions of the improved mode of treating diseases, without embarrassing him with refined speculations or useless disquisitions, was much wanted. He attempted no systematic arrangement ; but simply treated of those subjects, to which the attention of the surgeons of the army and navy would be most continually directed. No present could have been more acceptable to his country, and no gift more opportunely made ; for, in the situation of American affairs, many persons were chosen to act as surgeons, who from their few opportunities, and their ignorance of the improvements that had lately been made in practice, were but ill qualified for the office. His well meant endeavors were not lost ; for the improvements which he made known, though new to most practitioners and surgeons, were readily adopted when recommended by such authority. This was the only work ever published by Dr. Jones ; it might have indeed been readily supposed that more would have come from his pen, considering how well qualified he was to make observations, and to impart to others some portion of that knowledge of which he himself possessed so great a share. Such was actually his intention ; and he had prepared another work for the press, but was prevented by the most base treachery from giving it to the world. This was a complete collection of meteorological observations, made for ten successive years in New-York, with an account of the reigning

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\* In the dedication to Dr. Cadwallader we have a good specimen of the public virtue and benevolence of the author. "The present calamitous situation of this once happy country, in a peculiar manner demands the aid and assistance of every virtuous citizen : and though few men are possessed of those superior talents, which are requisite to heal such mighty evils, as now threaten the whole body politic with ruin and desolation, yet every man has it in his power to contribute something towards so desirable an end, and if he cannot cure the fatal disease of his unfortunate country, it will, at least, afford him some consolation, to have poured a little balm into her bleeding wounds."

diseases during that period ; which, as he has often informed me, was ready for the press at the time of his departure from New-York, when he placed it, together with all his valuable manuscripts and the anatomical preparations he had collected during his two voyages to Europe, in a place of apparent safety in a neighboring state : and in safety they might have remained, had not a brother professor, who became acquainted with the circumstance and knew the value of the deposit, perfidiously seized on it, with a view of converting it to his own profit ; by whom the whole were lost to the world and himself.

The business of teaching, as well as of private practice, was soon after interrupted by the commotions of his country, and by the actual existence of the storm, which had for some time before been collecting in its political horizon. War was already declared, and the blood of hundreds had been shed in the cause of freedom. The British army having taken possession of New-York, and the adjacent country becoming the seat of war, Dr. Jones, with all the friends to the American cause, had previously left the city, and retired to some distance into the country. Many of his friends who were attached to the British interest, protested against this measure with all the warmth that a sincere esteem and disinterested friendship could inspire ; and though he received the most positive assurances of not being disturbed on account of his political principles, if he remained in the city, but of having full liberty to follow the extensive and very lucrative business in which he was engaged, he refused to accept the offer of protection, that he might not be under the painful necessity of witnessing, much less countenancing the devastations committed by the enemy. Fully convinced of the danger with which the liberties of America were threatened, he conceived it criminal even to be a silent spectator of a contest carried on against a country that gave him birth, and therefore accepted of a seat in the senate of New-York, for the southern district, to which he was appointed by the convention chosen for the organization of the state government. When he could no longer be useful in his legislative capacity, he exerted his professional abilities by entering the medical department of the army, where he rendered important services to his suffering fellow soldiers, by healing the wounds which they received in the cause of liberty. But this highly satisfactory employment

was of a short duration ; for the natural delicacy of his constitution not comporting with the hardships of a military life, and the manifest injury his health had already received, rendered it necessary for him to return again to private practice ; accordingly on the evacuation of the city of Philadelphia by the British troops, in 1778, he went thither, and found that during a short stay there he enjoyed so much freedom from the asthma, that he determined to take up his future residence in that city. In the latter end, therefore, of the following year, or beginning of 1780, he removed to Philadelphia. This separation from his former friends and acquaintances, was, as might be naturally expected, severe in the extreme. The great alteration, however, in the state of his health, which he had observed since his change of situation, was sufficient to overbalance every other consideration, and determined him in his choice. The citizens of Philadelphia were not insensible of his merits ; for the same success in practice as a professional man, and the same agreeable manners as a gentleman, which placed him so high in the esteem of his fellow citizens at New-York, could not fail of attracting those of his new place of residence.

On the resignation of Dr. John Redman, as one of the physicians of the Pennsylvania hospital, in the year 1780, Dr. Jones was unanimously elected by the managers to fill the vacancy, and was continued in office until the time of his death. In his attendance upon this institution he was as remarkable for his regularity, as for the success of his practice ; and the plain, though honorable mention made of him by the managers in their minutes, sufficiently testifies the sense they entertained of his services in the cause of suffering humanity. In the same year he was elected first president of the Humane Society.

In the year 1786 the attention of the citizens of Philadelphia was called to the poor of the place, who at that time were in a peculiar and distressing situation from the want of proper medical assistance when sick. The Pennsylvania Hospital, which previously to the late revolution used to contain a great number of patients at a time, was prevented from extending its charity, in consequence of the loss it sustained by the removal of many who were indebted to it, and by the depreciation of the paper bills of credit in which others paid the sums due by them to the institution. In consequence of this, the managers were

under the necessity of confining within narrow limits that charity which was formerly so liberally dispensed, and many poor people being thus precluded from proper medical attendance, often suffered very materially. A design was therefore formed of establishing a Dispensary, by subscription, from which the poor might be furnished with medicines at their own houses, and attended by eminent physicians. This humane plan met with all the encouragement which it deserved, and the institution was in a short time duly organized. A number of physicians and surgeons were appointed constantly to attend the patients, and others of longer standing in the profession to consult occasionally with the former in extraordinary and difficult cases. Among the latter number Dr. Jones was elected, and annually rechosen until the time of his death.

In the succeeding year the physicians of Philadelphia, influenced by the many advantages which have arisen in every country from well conducted literary institutions, agreed to establish a college among themselves, for the advancement of the interests of medicine in general, but especially in this country ; they elected Dr. Jones vice president, the chair of the college having been conferred upon Dr. Redman. But a part of the first volume of this society is published, and to this he has communicated one of the most interesting papers, upon anthrax.

Dr. Jones was not only the intimate friend, but also physician to Dr. Franklin, and attended him in the last illness, which deprived his country and the world of that philosopher. As it may not be unsatisfactory to know something of the manner in which so great a man conducted himself, when about to close his earthly scene and enter upon another, the existence of which he was falsely reported to have disbelieved, I have preserved the following short account of his last illness, drawn up by Dr. Jones, and published at the time.

“ The stone, with which he had been afflicted for several years, had for the last twelve months of his life confined him chiefly to his bed ; and during the extremely painful paroxysms, he was obliged to take large doses of laudanum to mitigate his tortures ; still, in the intervals of pain, he not only amused himself by reading and conversing cheerfully with his family and a few friends who visited him, but was often employed in doing business of a public, as well as of a private nature, with various persons who

waited upon him for that purpose ; and in every instance displayed not only the readiness and disposition to do good, which were the distinguishing characteristics of his life, but the fullest and clearest possession of his uncommon abilities. He also not unfrequently indulged in those jeux d'esprit, and entertaining anecdotes, which were the delight of all who heard him."

"About sixteen days before his death, he was seized with a feverish disposition, without any particular symptoms attending it till the third or fourth day, when he complained of a pain in the left breast, which increased till it became extremely acute, attended by a cough and laborious breathing. During this state, when the severity of his pains drew forth a groan of complaint, he would observe that he was afraid he did not bear them as he ought ; acknowledging his grateful sense of the many blessings he had received from the Supreme Being, who had raised him from small and low beginnings, to such high rank and consideration among men : and made no doubt but that his present afflictions were kindly intended to wean him from a world in which he was no longer fit to act the part assigned him. In this frame of body and mind he continued until five days before his death, when the pain and difficulty of breathing entirely left him, and his family were flattering themselves with the hopes of his recovery ; but an imposthume which had formed in his lungs, suddenly burst, and discharged a quantity of matter, which he continued to throw up while he had power ; but as that failed, the organs of respiration became gradually oppressed ; a calm lethargic state succeeded ; and on the 17th of April, 1790, about eleven o'clock at night, he quietly expired, closing a long and useful life of eighty-four years and three months."

In the summer of the year 1790 the President of the United States then at New York, after having been for some days indisposed, became so ill, that other assistance in addition to that of his attending physician became necessary. An express arrived for Dr. Jones, and notwithstanding he was then much engaged in private practice at Philadelphia, he lost no time in flying at the call of a man, in whose welfare so many millions of freemen were interested. Upon his arrival at New York, he found that the disease from being of an inflammatory nature, had terminated in an alarming state of debility, and violent spas-



modic difficulty of breathing, which threatened the greatest danger. An unacquaintance with the particular circumstances of the case prevents me from asserting positively to whose fortunate advice the happy recovery is to be attributed ; but the fact is that in a few hours after the first visit, a manifest alteration for the better was perceived, and in a few days the President was out of danger. The importance of the service rendered was not forgotten. On the removal of the federal government to Philadelphia, the President chose him physician to his family, and he continued in that honorable station until the time of his death.

But at the very time when he was reaping the benefits of a long and steady pursuit of his profession, and was happy in the possession of the highest confidence of his fellow citizens, death put a stop to his earthly career. In the month of June, 1791, Dr. Jones rode out on horseback some miles from town to visit his friend Mr. Charles Thompson, secretary to congress during the late war. The day was warm, and he was so fatigued by his excursion that he did not entirely recover himself for several days. On the evening of the 17th he paid a visit to the President of the United States ; and previously to his return home, from being a very sultry day the air became remarkably cool ; he was dressed in a light manner suitable to the weather when he set out ; but it was not sufficiently warm for the remarkable and sudden alteration in the temperature of the air that succeeded. Having some patients who required his attendance, he visited them before his return home, where he had no sooner arrived, than he felt himself much indisposed ; the next morning he awoke with a smart fever, attended with a diarrhœa and great prostration of strength. He continued for four days in this situation, with but little alteration, passing almost sleepless nights. Upon the fifth day he became considerably better ; was able to sit up, and the most flattering prospects were entertained of a quick recovery ; exhausted, however, by the violence of the disease, the want of sleep and the conversation of numerous friends, who had that day visited him, he retired early to bed in the evening, with a view by the help of an anodyne to procure some rest. This, however, was denied him, and he continued in a very restless and uneasy state the whole night, during which time he had a violent return of his asthma. Early in the morning

of the 23d he felt some inclination to sleep, and desired to be left alone. His orders were perhaps too punctually obeyed ; at eight o'clock his servant entered his room, and observed him in a calm slumber ; he again visited him two hours after, when he found him in the same position with his hand under his head, to all appearance in a profound sleep, but on approaching the bed he perceived that he breathed no more. The quiet and easy manner of his death, and the apparent strength of body exhibited the preceding day, induced some of his brethren to hope that a suspension of animation only had taken place ; the usual means of recovery were accordingly tried for some time, but all in vain ; the scene was finally closed. He died in the 63d year of his age. His remains were deposited in the Friends' burial ground, Arch-street ; and his funeral was conducted agreeably to a desire he often expressed, in a plain manner, and strictly suitable to the excellent regulations of that religious society. It was attended by the members of the Philosophical Society, his medical brethren of the college, and those numerous citizens who knew his worth, and will long regret his death.

The person of Dr. Jones was about the middle size ; his chest was moderate, but perfectly well formed ; his habit was thin, owing to his constant affliction with the asthma. His eye was quick and penetrating, his countenance cheerful but sedate, and his whole deportment was easy, though polite. He was free and easy of access ; for as he owed his fame and reputation neither to powerful friends or connexions, nor to any of those lucky circumstances, which exclusively of abilities so frequently determine the fortune of physicians, but rose into the esteem of his fellow citizens solely by merit, so he depended upon this alone for the continuance of that interest and support in the profession by which he lived. There was, notwithstanding, such a gravity of appearance and dignity of manners, as never failed to command respect and esteem. Few persons have died more sincerely regretted ; for few persons possessed more of those engaging qualities, which render a man estimable, whether in his professional character or private capacity, than Dr. Jones. His conversation was of the most pleasing and interesting kind. While his language flowed in that easy spontaneous manner, which evinced at once how little it was studied, he at the same time enlivened it by a sprightly vein of wit that delighted as well as

commanded the attention of the hearer. He was, however, never known to make use of it to the injury or even embarrassment of another, as is frequently done by those who possess that power, and who would rather suffer the risk of hurting the feelings of their friend, than lose the mirth that was raised at his expense. He was fond of the belles lettres, and read much poetry of the best authors, whose happy expressions he had the utmost readiness in introducing and applying to proper and seasonable parts of a conversation. He had seen much of life, and his memory suffered few things to escape which were worth retaining. These accomplishments rendered him a most agreeable, as well as entertaining and instructing companion ; and being joined to professional merit, served to fix and secure the regard of his friends in a most powerful and remarkable manner.

As a surgeon, Dr. Jones stood at the head of the profession in this country ; and he may be deservedly considered as the chief instrument in effecting the remarkable revolution in that branch of the healing art, which is now so apparent, by laying aside the former complicated modes of practice, and substituting those which are plain and simple. The operation to which he principally confined himself for many of the last years of his life was lithotomy ; and his success in this difficult and important object of a surgeon's duty, was great indeed. Even in the month before his death, in a most capital and nice operation, there did not appear to be any diminution of that dexterity and steadiness of hand, for which he had always been remarkable, and of which those not half his age might have boasted. From long practice also, and from that readiness which appeared to be constitutional, he had acquired a facility in operating, to which few surgeons have arrived ; I have seldom known him longer than three minutes in lithotomy, and he has sometimes finished the whole in one minute and a half ! Happy, however, as he was as to the manner, and fortunate as to the event of the operation, he was not so anxious about the shortness of the time in which it was performed as to the certainty of its success. "*Respite finem*," was the rule of his conduct, as it ought to be of every surgeon and physician ; and as much as he attended to the shortness of the operation, as connected with the important consideration of alleviating pain, he nevertheless considered it of secondary conse-

quence, and rather wished to accomplish that well in a little longer time, than slight his work by a studied despatch.

Connected with this part of his professional character, was his merit as an accoucheur ; and in this difficult and important branch his success was great. During the prosecution of his studies in Europe he paid particular attention to this subject ; and availed himself of every opportunity, to become qualified to practise it, both by a strict attendance upon the various hospitals founded for this particular purpose, and upon the private practice of the different professors. In the lectures which he himself delivered in the College of New-York he dwelt much upon this subject, and he may justly be considered as the first, who gave the medical students of that state a proper and rational notion of the art. Convinced that nature, or, more properly speaking, the exertions of the system, were in the greatest number of instances sufficient for its own necessities, he seldom had recourse to those artificial aids, by the frequent use of which the lives of the subjects were formerly often endangered, and whose general neglect now marks an era in the history of the art. In cases, however, of absolute necessity, which sometimes, though fortunately seldom, occur, he never failed to derive from them every possible aid ; and while on the one hand his becoming modesty and delicacy of deportment not only marked the gentleman, but held him dear to the female sex, his expertness in operating sufficiently testified his knowledge of its use.

The merit of Dr. Jones as a physician, was likewise considerable. Though educated in the school of Boerhaave, he never professed an implicit faith in that, or any other system. He was guided by just general principles, and he varied his practice like every judicious physician, with the varying circumstances of the case. The success of his practice, was the best proof of the truth of his principles, and of the judgment which directed their application. He lamented the imperfection of the science, and never refused the adoption of any rational means of increasing its certainty, or the use of any remedy because it was new, which had been sanctioned by experience, and had reason and probability to recommend it ; on the other hand, the caution with which he gave way to many much

famed antidotes whose short lived reputation proved their merit, marked him the safe and prudent practitioner.

There was one particular trait in the character of Dr. Jones, which as affording a very useful lesson of instruction, deserves to be mentioned. He made it a rule never to offer advice, and seldom to give it, except he had well grounded assurance that it was asked in sincerity ; and in this case, when demanded upon a subject concerning which he thought himself capable of informing, he seldom scrupled to give it, observing, however, never to make use of any persuasion to induce it to be followed, but leaving the party to decide for himself.

The same prudential motives, which influenced Dr. Jones in the above particular, likewise showed themselves in the caution with which he contracted friendships. The best knowledge, and that which is of the greatest advantage to mankind, is derived from experience. In the early part of his life he had suffered, as I was informed, by the villany of a man, in whose honor he had the greatest reason to confide ; and dear as the price was at which this specimen of human nature was afforded, it was not purchased in vain : it taught him a lesson by which he profited during the remainder of his life ; and pointed out the necessity of not placing such implicit confidence in men, who, though they show a specious outside garb of friendship, are actuated solely by selfinterest in their apparently disinterested conduct. Though thus cautious in contracting friendships, yet when tried worth had induced him to form an attachment, he was sincere and firm. His friendship did not show itself by those convulsive acts of generosity, which sometimes are performed ; but in a constant and uniform disposition, which was ready to assist in the hour when most needed : not like the bursting of a scorching sun from behind a cloud, which brings on disease while it flatters with health ; but like the moderate and gentle sunshine, which imparts health to the body and serenity to the mind.

He is now gone to that " country from whose bourn no traveller returns ;" and while we mourn his loss, let us if possible derive instruction from the record of his life. To my fellow members of the profession, and especially to those who are about to commence their medical career, I would set him as a pattern every way worthy of imitation. He was their friend while living, and he contributed

much to their improvement by his labors. Like him, let them entertain a just sense of the dignity of the medical profession ; let them rely upon actual merit and real worth for their advancement, and despise every art that would tend to raise them in the esteem of mankind upon any other than this solid and substantial basis.—*James Mease, M. D.*

**JONES, DR. NOBLE WIMBERLY.** This gentleman, distinguished in the political as well as in the medical annals of Georgia, was born at a village near London, about the year 1723 or 24. His father, Noble Jones, was a physician, and being intimately acquainted with General Oglethorpe, was prevailed upon to accompany him in his enterprise to found a new colony on this continent. His family then consisted of a wife and two children, a daughter and a son, the subject of this memoir. General Oglethorpe, with a military force and about forty families, arrived at what was afterwards called the city of Savannah, on the first of February, 1733. The colonists had to encounter all the difficulties and dangers incident to a new settlement, which nothing less than the diversified talents of its founder could have surmounted. General Oglethorpe possessed a combination of qualities rarely seen united in the same individual. He was an able military leader, a benign legislator and magistrate, and a man of most extensive philanthropy. His character has been well sketched in the following extract. "The life of General Oglethorpe would require but little embellishment to make it a tale of romance. It was full of variety, adventure and achievement. His ruling passions were the love of glory, of his country, and of mankind, and these were so blended together in his mind that they formed but one principle of action. He was a hero, a statesman, an orator, the patron of letters, the chosen friend of men of genius, and the theme of praise for great poets.\*

Amid the scenes of turbulence and danger to which the new settlement was constantly exposed, it was not to be expected that many facilities for education could be afforded. Accordingly, the only instruction that Dr. Jones received, both in the common branches of education and in his profession, was from his father. In the early years of his life he took an active part in the military expedi-

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\* Verplanck's discourse before the New-York Historical Society.

tions in which the colonists were engaged against the Spaniards and Indians, and both himself and his father were honored by the particular regard of General Oglethorpe, who sent them his portrait from England, which was unfortunately lost when the British troops took possession of Savannah in 1778.

Dr. Noble Jones had continued the practice of his profession after his arrival in Georgia, and about the year 1748 associated his son in business with him. This connexion was maintained to 1756 ; and as the settlement extended, the professional duties of Dr. N. W. Jones, upon whom the business chiefly devolved, became very arduous, as his circle of practice reached many miles from Savannah.

At the commencement of the dissensions between Great Britain and her colonies, Dr. Jones became conspicuous as a political leader. He early joined with others in stating to the mother country the grievances of the colonies, and held a correspondence with Dr. Franklin, then the agent of Georgia in England, on the subject. He was also among the first who associated for the purpose of sending delegates to a general congress at Philadelphia, and was either chosen or was offered the appointment ; but his father, who was the treasurer of the province and a member of the council, being then advanced in years, and becoming infirm, prevailed upon him to decline it. The provincial legislature through him as their speaker, had frequent altercations with the governor and council ; the house of commons was in consequence several times dissolved, but in every new election he was returned, and again chosen speaker. During his residence in the state he was speaker of the first legislature of Georgia, which during the revolution consisted of a single branch.

On the British taking possession of Savannah, in December 1778, Dr. Jones left that city with his family, and went to Charleston, where he commenced practice in January 1779, and continued until November or December 1780. He was then arrested by order of the British commander, conducted on board a ship, and, with a number of other gentlemen, carried to St. Augustine, then in possession of the British forces, in violation of the articles of capitulation entered into at the surrender of Charleston in May 1780, by which these gentlemen were to remain in that city on parole until exchanged. Dr. J. remained in St. Augustine until the following July, when

he was released on a general exchange of prisoners effected by General Greene. He sailed for Philadelphia, and arrived about the 15th of August, where he soon after began the practice of his profession, having scarcely any other means of supporting his family, as all his property in Georgia had been sequestered by the British, and sold by Governor Wright and Lieutenant Governor Graham, for damages which they alleged they had sustained from him by his signing, as Speaker of the General Assembly, the act of the state that confiscated their property.

Dr. Jones received great attention from the medical gentlemen of Philadelphia, particularly from Dr. Rush, and soon derived an income from his practice sufficient for his support. In the course of a few months he was appointed a delegate to congress by the legislature of Georgia, and continued in that capacity until December 1782, when hearing of the evacuation of Savannah by the British troops in July preceding, he left Philadelphia and returned to Georgia, having advised the legislature of his intention. He had been previously elected a member of the general assembly, and at their meeting in January 1783, was chosen speaker. This was a session of considerable commotion ; several of the members on a question of importance to the finances seceded ; a mob collected at night, and was guilty of many excesses. Mr. Telfair, an active member in the majority, had his house attacked by the mob, and Dr. Jones, who was in the house advising the leaders to disperse, was wounded by a broadsword on the head. He called upon the Governor at a late hour of the night, demanded his interference, and the mob was quieted. The next day the seceding members refused to come in, but were at length brought to a sense of duty.

After the adjournment of the legislature, Dr. Jones visited Charleston ; and by the solicitation of many of his former patients was induced to resume the practice of medicine in that city. He remained there in extensive and very lucrative business until December 1788, when he again returned to Savannah, where he continued to reside, with the exception of a few weeks, actively engaged in practice during the remainder of his life. In 1795 he was chosen President of the Convention at Louisville, which amended the constitution of the state ; after which he declined public employment. He was taken ill on the first of January, 1805, in consequence of exposure the two pre-



ceding nights in attending several obstetric cases, and died on the ninth, universally regretted.

Few men have lived to witness greater vicissitudes than Dr. Jones. The colony, which he may be said to have assisted in planting, had become during his life a powerful and independent state ; and the very spot on which his father's family had encamped, he bequeathed as a valuable lot in a flourishing city to his descendants. Of the active share which he had in bringing about these changes, it belongs perhaps to the political historian of his state to speak. The foregoing sketch, however, affords sufficient evidence of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens, and of his worth as a public character. In the various offices to which he was elected, he displayed a firmness and decision peculiarly suited to the troubled times in which he lived. Cautious and deliberate in forming his opinions, when he had once taken his determination he was not to be diverted from his purpose. He was always ready to sacrifice his private feelings and interest to the welfare of his country, the object he had most at heart, and he was not unfrequently called on to make this sacrifice. His political situation necessarily brought him acquainted with Generals Washington, Greene, Wayne, and most of the statesmen and military commanders who had a conspicuous part in the revolution. In common with every American citizen he esteemed and revered Washington's character, but he disapproved of the British treaty, and was chairman of the meeting of the citizens of Savannah who addressed the President on that subject. He deprecated all foreign influence and party violence, and believed that talents, combined with virtue and moderation, would most effectually secure our union and independence.

As a physician Dr. Jones was skilful, humane, attentive and regardless of personal hazard or danger when visiting or contributing to the relief of his patients. These qualities gave him an extensive practice, which he was enabled to continue, in every branch of the profession, to the period of his last illness.

In the relations of private life, Dr. Jones was most exemplary. His benevolence and charity were unbounded. He was a member and for several years president of the Union Society, the oldest charitable institution in the state ; and, although attached more particularly to the

Episcopal Church, he contributed liberally to religious societies of every denomination. He was remarkable for extreme delicacy and refinement of manners, and for the most affectionate disposition. So exceedingly fearful was he of occasioning trouble to any of his friends, that he would scarcely make known the simplest want. In his personal habits and appearance, he retained that neatness and love of order which he had acquired from his military service. He was temperate and abstemious in his modes of living, of the strictest morality, and a sincere believer in christianity, and he terminated a long and valuable life the object of the veneration and regard of all who knew him.

JONES, WALTER, M.D. one of the most eminent physicians of our country, was born in Virginia, and received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, where he was graduated about the year 1770. While at this institution he became a favorite of the school, and enjoyed the particular friendship and esteem of Cullen, and the other professors of that time.

On his return to his native country, he settled in Northumberland county, Virginia, where he acquired an extensive practice, and sustained through life the highest standing both as a scholar and physician. "He was," says a distinguished gentleman, who for some time enjoyed his acquaintance, "for the variety and extent of his learning, the originality and strength of his mind, the sagacity of his observations, and the captivating powers of his conversation, one of the most extraordinary men I have ever known. He was an accurate observer of nature and of human character, and seemed to possess intuitively the faculty of discerning the hidden cause of disease and of applying with a promptness and decision peculiar to himself, the appropriate remedies." For a few years he was returned a member of the national legislature; but he spent the most of his life in the practice of that profession of which he was a distinguished ornament.—*Swall*.

KAST, THOMAS, M.M.S.S. was born in Boston, August 12th, 1750. He was educated at Harvard College, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1769, and of Master of Arts in 1774. He commenced his medical studies under the care of his father, Dr. Philip Godfrid Kast, in Boston. In the year 1770 he went on board the British ship *Rose*, Benjamin Caldwell commander,

as a surgeon's mate, and sailed for Halifax, Newport and New-York, and continued in that station until 1772, when he arrived in England and spent two years in London attending the several professional lectures at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, as dresser to Mr. Warner, and the lectures and practical part of midwifery as taught by Dr. Mackenzie.

In 1774 he returned to Boston and commenced the practice of physic, surgery and midwifery, which he continued to follow until December, 1804, when a very severe rheumatic fever deprived the public of his usefulness. With the view of improving his health he was induced, in the autumn of 1810, again to visit Europe, and he passed seven years in England, Scotland, France, Switzerland, Italy and Holland. The change of climate partially restored his health; but in September, 1817, his debility and weakness increasing to an alarming extent, hastened his return to his native country, where in October he arrived. He continued gradually to decline until June 20th, 1820, when he departed this life in Boston.

Dr. Kast was one of the original members named in the act of incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and for several years was their treasurer. He enjoyed a very respectable and extensive circle of practice, was a neat and successful operator in surgery, and performed with success the first operation for aneurism in the thigh in the town of Boston. (Vide medical papers of Massachusetts Medical Society.) His obstetric practice was more extensive than that of any of his contemporaries, and in this branch he obtained a deserved popularity.

KISSAM, RICHARD S., M.D. The father of this distinguished surgeon was Benjamin Kissam, an eminent practising lawyer in the city of New-York, where the subject of this sketch was born in 1763. Richard was the third of five brothers, two of whom engaged in medical studies and followed the practice of the profession. At an early age he was sent to the grammar school under the superintendence of the late eminent scholar, William Cutting, at Hempstead, on Long Island. Here he became imbued with a fondness for the classics, which he continued to cherish throughout life. On the completion of his elementary education he became a pupil of the late Dr. McKnight, a gentleman of great professional merit; with him he continued for some time; but subsequently repair-

ed to Europe and became a resident of Edinburgh, at the famous university of which he was matriculated as a student, and continued for the long period of five years.

Among his contemporaries at this great seat of medical education, were Sir James Macintosh, the late Professor Wistar, Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell, and Thomas Addis Emmet, the late profound jurist and eloquent advocate of New-York. Upon receiving the Doctorate in 1789, he published an inaugural dissertation "De Rheumatismo." From Edinburgh he repaired to the continent, whence he returned to his native city. In 1791 he commenced the practice of that profession of which for thirty years he was a most distinguished ornament, and his renown as a surgeon was founded upon the promptitude and success of his operations. As a lithotomist he was particularly celebrated. It is stated that of sixty-five operations in his hands for the stone, three only proved fatal. He at an early period in his practice had recourse to tapping for dropsy of the ovarium with success. In one case nearly six quarts of water were drawn off; the patient afterwards proved pregnant, and became the mother of five children. Upon the formation of the medical faculty of Columbia College in 1792, he was appointed Professor of Botany, but declined the honor. For the period of thirty years he was one of the surgeons of that extensive charity, the New-York Hospital.

Dr. Kissam died in October, 1822, in the 59th year of his age.

Notwithstanding some untoward events in his early life, Dr. Kissam arose to the height of celebrity and reputation. To a mind admirably adapted by nature for the practice of the profession, clear, acute and sagacious, he united a firmness of nerve which was equal to the urgency and magnitude of any undertaking. It is not known that he left behind him any writings, by which posterity may be enabled to judge of his merits; but his career was too long and too triumphant amidst powerful and vigorous competitors to leave the possibility of a doubt as to the solidity of his pretensions. His fame as a successful operator must rest upon the verbal and vanishing testimony of his contemporaries. It may be proper to add that his integrity was beyond the reach of calumny or cavil.

KITTREDGE, THOMAS, M.D., M.M.S.S. was distinguished as a practitioner of surgery and medicine

throughout the state of Massachusetts. He was born at Andover in July, 1746, received his academic education at Dummer Academy in Byfield, and studied his profession with Dr. Sawyer, a distinguished physician in Newburyport.

In 1768 he returned to Andover, and began the practice of medicine and surgery. At the commencement of the revolution he was appointed a surgeon in the army, and being stationed at Cambridge, had an opportunity of being present at the action of the seventeenth of June, 1775. Dr. Kittredge sustained many municipal and political offices; he was often a member of the legislature of the commonwealth, and was there useful to the Medical Society by exerting his extensive influence in its favor. His practice as a physician was very large; but he was most distinguished as an operating surgeon for a great number of years. In the practice of medicine he was thought remarkable for his readiness in discriminating diseases. He began to be affected by angina pectoris in the year 1810, and died of this disease in October, 1818, after an illness of three hours.

The family of which he was a member, has become so distinguished for surgical skill in New England, that in many places the name alone is a passport to practice; and the number of practitioners of this name is very considerable. This is to be attributed, not only to the well earned reputation of Dr. Kittredge, but to that of his father, who had also a high reputation in surgery; and it is not improbable that his grandfather and greatgrandfather, the latter of whom came to this country from Germany at an early period and settled at Tewksbury, were eminent in the same line.

In political sentiment Dr. K. was of the party denominated republican, and on all occasions a strenuous advocate for their measures; but his patriotism and public virtue were unimpeached.

KNEELAND, WILLIAM, M.M.S.S. was a native of Boston, and graduated at Harvard College in 1744. While a child he discovered a capacity above the common level. Under the care of worthy and pious parents, he received those impressions, which were never obliterated, and which he ever acknowledged with filial gratitude. At school he outstripped most of his fellows, and was exceeded by none. While a student in the university, the expansion of

his intellectual powers was equal to the sphere in which they were to be displayed. He received from the government of that institution an ample testimony of his attention, industry, and progress in literature and science, by the assignment of a distinguished part in the exercises previous to his receiving the first honors of the University. Soon after he went through a regular course of medical studies with an eminent physician, whose approbation and patronage he justly merited.

While he was qualifying himself for his profession, he ardently pursued various branches of science, acquired the character of a scholar, and became particularly eminent in logic and metaphysics. Before he entered on the practice of physic a tutorship in the college became vacant, and his qualifications pointed him out to the government of that institution as the most suitable person to fill the office. In this a field was open for the full display of his talents. He did not disappoint the fondest hopes of his friends, nor the expectation of his electors. He showed himself well skilled in each department of his office. He communicated his instructions with perspicuity, and governed with impartiality; and he hereby commanded the respect and esteem of his pupils. Having with dignity and approbation discharged the duties of his office about nine years, he quitted it for the pleasures of domestic life.

His eminence in his profession was honorably recognised by the Medical Society of Massachusetts, who repeatedly elected him their president. While Register of Probate, the widow and orphan had frequent experience of his aid and friendship. His accuracy, fidelity and inflexible integrity as a civil magistrate and in every other department of life, were acknowledged by all who were conversant with him. The social virtues formed a distinguished trait in his character. Facetious, ingenuous, hospitable and agreeable in his deportment, his acquaintance was sedulously cultivated by those of a similar disposition. He wished the happiness of mankind; and the religious society and church of which he was a member, experienced in an especial manner the beneficial effects of his benevolent exertions in their behalf. Truly catholic and unaffected in piety and devotion, he exemplified the religion of which he was a professor, by the morality of his conduct.

Dr. Kneeland departed this life in November, 1788, aged 56 years. Sagacious in many things, he gave counsel to many who consulted him, and performed punctually and faithfully his private and public duties. He was a sincere friend and pleasant companion, an honorable man, and a guardian of the poor.

KUHN, ADAM, M.D., M.M.S.S. Hon. was born at Germantown, near Philadelphia, Nov. 17th, 1741, old style. His grandfather, John Christopher Kuhn, and his father, Adam Smith Kuhn, were natives of Farsfeld, a small town near Heilbronn, on the Neckar, in the circle of Swabia. They both came to Philadelphia in September, 1733. His father was a man of bright natural parts, improved by the benefits of a liberal education, and was considered as a very skilful, attentive and successful practitioner of medicine. He was a magistrate of the borough of Lancaster, and an elder of the Lutheran church; and was the principal, and almost the only person, who was actively concerned for the promotion of classical learning amongst the youth of that place. For this end he procured the erection of a school house, in which the Greek and Latin languages were taught by the best qualified masters. There was no one amongst his contemporaries, who had more at heart the spreading of religion; and there was no place of worship built throughout the country, to which he did not liberally contribute. The utmost pains were bestowed by him on the education of his numerous offspring, to enable them to become useful members of the community.

Dr. Adam Kuhn's first studies in medicine were directed by his father, until the autumn of 1761, when he sailed for Europe, and arrived at Upsal, by the way of London, in the beginning of January, 1762, having traversed Norway and part of Sweden. He studied medicine and botany under Linnæus, and the other professors of the University of Upsal, until July or August, 1764, when he returned to London, where, it is believed, he remained a twelve-month. The particular estimation in which he was held by Linnæus, will be sufficiently manifested by the letters of that eminent man addressed to Dr. Kuhn, and published in the 8th volume of the *Eclectic Repository*. They will also serve to show the correctness of his pupil's conduct, and his unremitted attention to his studies.

At what time Dr. Kuhn went to Edinburgh cannot be precisely ascertained. He took his degree of Doctor of Medicine in that university on the twelfth day of June, 1767. The Thesis published by him on the occasion, "*De Lavatione Frigida*," was dedicated to his friend and instructor Linnæus.

He visited France, Holland and Germany ; but whether before, or after his residence at Edinburgh, is not known.

In the month of January, 1768, he returned from London to his native country, and settled in Philadelphia, where he quickly rose to a high degree of estimation amongst his elder medical brethren, and soon succeeded to the most respectable practice. He was appointed professor of materia medica and botany, in the College of Philadelphia, in January, 1768 ; and commenced his first course of botany in May following

A society for inoculating the poor with the smallpox, was instituted at Philadelphia in January, 1774, and Dr. Kuhn was chosen one of the physicians. It appears from the bills of mortality for 1773, that of one thousand three hundred and forty-four persons, who died in the City and Liberties during that time, above three hundred perished with the natural smallpox. The labors of the society terminated in the April following, on account of the unsettled state of public affairs. What a happy contrast does the important discovery of vaccination offer to this afflicting report !

In May, 1775, Dr. Kuhn was elected one of the physicians to the Pennsylvania Hospital ; which he attended until his resignation in January, 1798, having served the institution, with his usual diligence and faithfulness, upwards of twenty-two years. It may not be improper to add that his medical prescriptions bore the stamp of energy and simplicity.

The Philadelphia Dispensary for the medical relief of the poor, the first institution of its kind in the United States, was founded in 1786. Dr. Kuhn was appointed one of the consulting physicians, and ever proved himself to be amongst the foremost of its steady friends and patrons.

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia was established in 1787 ; of which Dr. Kuhn was always an active member. On the decease of Dr. William Shippen, in July,



1808, he succeeded him as president, and was continued during his life in this distinguished station.

In November, 1789, he was appointed professor of the theory and practice of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania ; and on the junction of the two medical schools of the College and University, was chosen professor of the practice of physic, in January, 1792. In 1797 he resigned his medical chair. As a teacher, he was faithful and clear in the description of diseases, and in the mode of applying their appropriate remedies ; mostly avoiding theoretical discussions. His lectures were eminently calculated to form useful practitioners in the healing art, to the promotion of which his whole life was devoted. Dr. Kuhn was also a member of the American Philosophical Society, and an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Of his writings nothing can be recollected but his Thesis, and a short letter addressed to Dr. John Coakley Lettsom, on the diseases succeeding the transplantation of teeth, which was published in the first volume of the memoirs of the Medical Society of London. This is not the only instance, in which a dislike to appear before the public has deprived us of the experience of those, who were best qualified by their talents and observation to communicate instruction.

The account of men who have been uncommonly useful, although they may have passed through life without much eclat, is of great importance, when they can be held up as profitable examples to survivors. Of the subject of the present notice it may truly be said, that in him were united the characters of the able and of the conscientious practitioner. His contemporary medical brethren will unanimously adjudge him the palm of excellence as a physician ; and his numerous patients will unite in deploring the loss of a friend, whose judgment and attention have not been surpassed.

In his common intercourse with mankind Dr. Kuhn appeared to be reserved ; but this was not his natural disposition. He placed a high value on a real friend, and in the company of his friends no man was more affable and communicative. His kind and unassuming behavior to younger physicians, his manners void of ostentation, and his firmness and decision of conduct, will long be remembered.

But a most prominent feature in his character was a strict punctuality, and observance of all his engagements. This inestimable virtue can never be too highly inculcated on a physician. The want of it is a deviation from truth, and the consequence of such deficiency is replete with endless inconvenience. It would be difficult justly to charge him with a voluntary departure from this correct course, in the long period of nearly fifty years practice. And whilst we admire and applaud the propriety of his conduct, an occasion like the present should not be lost, of holding up to public view the practice of an estimable fellow citizen, who always acted like one that regarded punctuality as a sacred duty.

Dr. Kuhn was not remarkable for the powers of imagination; but in sound judgment he greatly excelled. His talent for observation was profound. He was through life a studious reader, a lover of music from his youth, remarkably abstemious and regular in his diet, and neat in his person. During a long and active attention to the duties of his profession, he enjoyed so much health, as to use his carriage only in inclement weather. He was married in May, 1780, in the island of St. Croix, to Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Hartman, Esq. by whom he had two sons, respectable characters, now living in Philadelphia. For some time before his death his bodily strength began to fail; which induced him, in the autumn of 1815, to relinquish his practice, to the great regret of the families whom he had attended. It has fallen to the lot of the compiler of the present notice, very frequently to be gratified with hearing the expressions of regard for his medical abilities, from those who had long known him as a physician, and who continue to lament his loss.

After a confinement to the house of about three weeks, he expired July 5th, 1817, aged 75 years, without pain, and fully sensible of his approaching dissolution.—*Eclectic Repository*, volume 8th.

LAWRENCE, JASON VALENTINE O'BRIEN, M.D. was born in the city of New-Orleans, in the year 1791, to which place his father had emigrated from the state of New-Jersey, and where he had married a lady of Irish descent. He was early deprived of his paternal protector, and the guidance of his youth devolved on his maternal grandmother, who resided near Baton Rouge, on the Mississippi. His early education was at the schools then af-

fording by his native city, after attending which till his fifteenth year, he entered at Lower Dublin Academy, near Philadelphia. When his stay in this seminary, which was extended to upwards of three years, was expired, he returned to New-Orleans, to commence the study of medicine under his stepfather, Dr. Flood. Here he possessed practical opportunities not always enjoyed by the pupils of physicians in large cities ; having frequently the charge, in the violent and acute diseases of that climate, of a part of his father's patients.

In December, 1812, Dr. Lawrence quitted New-Orleans and repaired to Philadelphia, that he might avail himself of the advantages it presents to the medical student, and terminate his studies by crowning them with the honors of her widely and justly celebrated school. He became one of the pupils of Dr. Physick, then professor of surgery, whose private friendship he had the honor of enjoying during the remainder of his life. After distinguishing himself among the class for talents in the acquisition of knowledge, and a remarkable degree of assiduity in any employment, however laborious or disgusting, which belonged to his profession, he entered the Pennsylvania Hospital in 1814, to fill a temporary vacancy as house physician and surgeon. In this establishment he remained till the ensuing spring, when he was graduated, and soon after returned to New-Orleans to commence the practice of physic under the paternal auspices of Dr. Flood. Here he immediately obtained a large and lucrative business, and continued, till he left that city, the acting physician and surgeon of the New-Orleans Hospital, of which his stepfather was principal. Dr. Lawrence could not, however, remain long satisfied in this situation. The recollection of the advantages which Philadelphia possessed in every scientific point of view, an early attachment, the friendships which he had formed there, and particularly its great facilities for the prosecution of his favorite pursuit, the study of anatomy, worked upon his mind, until he finally resolved to sacrifice the present possession of a large, profitable and increasing practice, with the best grounds for confidently expecting, at an early period, to reach the summit of professional eminence in the place of his birth, for the object of living where he could to more advantage pursue his inquiries into nature. The increase of knowledge was a tonic to his mind, with which he

could not dispense ; and every consideration of ambition or pecuniary advantage was small in the comparison.

From the period of his settling in Philadelphia, Dr. Lawrence was obliged to buffet all the difficulties to which those physicians are subjected who settle in large cities. His talents were universally, and with pleasure acknowledged by his numerous acquaintance ; his industry, which was of a kind beyond that usually termed indefatigable, was obvious to all ; his experience and acquirements were great, and generally known ; his conversation was courted with pleasure and pride by the first names in science, and with some of them he was intimately bound in the relations of private friendship : yet neither talents, nor industry, nor learning, nor experience, nor influential friendship could supply the place of the opportunities which he had so magnanimously relinquished ; and it is believed that, though his prospects were fast brightening at the close, he continued to struggle with difficulty, till the termination of his useful life. An attack of the epidemic fever, which has in such a distressing manner visited the neighborhood of our city, augmented by a continuance of the unparalleled exertions which he was in the constant habit of making, rapidly hurried him to his end. He was taken ill on the 9th of August, 1823, while visiting in the infected neighborhood of the Ridge-road, and imprudently continued to labor in the day and curtail his rest at night, till the eleventh, when he was obliged to be conveyed home in the carriage of a friend, from an operation at the almshouse. He immediately took his bed, soon became delirious, rapidly sunk, and in defiance of the best medical attendance, on the 19th he expired.

Thus was society deprived of a man, of whom, although it had already begun to award him fame, it had never known the value. Assiduous and noiseless in his pursuits, he was, perhaps, the individual whose real merit bore the largest proportion to his pretensions. Always actuated by the love of science and of his species, he was uniformly more ready to labor for the advantage of others than for his own. His assistance is gratefully acknowledged by many whom he has obliged in this way. This temper gained him many friends among the medical students, at the suggestion of whom he commenced, in the spring of 1822, to give a six months course of lectures on anatomy and surgery, perhaps one of the fullest courses of lectures ever

given in this city, Philadelphia. In this novel and laborious undertaking, which began immediately after the spring commencement, and lasted, with the exception of the month of August, till the ensuing November, six lectures being delivered every week, he was encouraged by a considerable class. In the progress of this year he gradually acquired the habit of lecturing with ease and perspicuity; his enunciation, which originally was rapid and somewhat difficult to be understood, gained a more even flow. He at all times possessed the warm personal attachment of his pupils, and their high estimation of his talents, to which he was rapidly adding the elegance and facility of an eloquent lecturer. He was engaged in a second course of lectures of the same kind, at the period of his lamented decease. Dr. Lawrence's principal medical merit was the prosecution of morbid anatomy. The opportunities for this pursuit in Philadelphia, are very great, and he embraced them to the fullest extent. He was in the constant habit of recording facts and observations of every kind, relating to medical science, which occurred in his daily pursuits, and particularly accounts of dissections. His accumulations of this nature rose to the vast amount of above three thousand pages; and an index was carefully kept, referring to every case. This was the common employment of those hours which he uniformly stole from sleep. By these means he became, probably, the best qualified among our American physicians to publish one of those useful works on morbid anatomy, which do honor to the names of their authors, and form, in fact, the greatest and surest support of medical knowledge. His inaugural thesis was upon fracture of the thigh, a subject which he treated from observation in the hospital and elsewhere, with a candor and caution in stating the results of different modes of practice, highly creditable to his feelings and principles.

He was bred a Roman catholic, though upon the subject of religion he maintained, in his conversation, a reverent silence. He did not deem it a fit theme for discussion in mixed companies. His friends, however, knew that he had a tolerance for all, nor thought that belief in any particular was a part of the necessary duties of man in this world, or of the commands of the Creator. In all the duties of social life he was truly exemplary. Dr. Lawrence was a member of the American Philosophical Society and of the medical associations existing at the time among his equals in

system but once in life, an opinion which has been recently maintained by several physicians.—*Miller and Ramsay.*

LITTLE, MOSES, M.M.S.S., was born at Newburyport, Massachusetts, in the year 1766 ; graduated at Harvard University in 1787, and was a very distinguished scholar. He studied his profession with Dr. Jonathan Swett of Newburyport, and for the purpose of procuring funds to enable him to commence the duties of his profession, engaged in instructing some pupils in Virginia for one year.

Soon after commencing business in Salem, he was employed by the town to inoculate with the smallpox, and carried great numbers through the disease with remarkable success. About this time he performed some difficult operations in surgery, which gave him such reputation that he rapidly rose into extensive practice. One of the operations referred to, was puncturing the liver through the external integuments ; a vast quantity of matter was discharged and the patient recovered. He was particularly celebrated in Salem and its vicinity as a surgeon and accoucheur, though his practice in all the branches of his profession was continually increasing. In 1808 he was present at the births of precisely one half of all the children born in Salem during that year. Notwithstanding his numerous professional engagements he found time for very respectable acquirements in literature, and his gentle and amiable manners and benevolent disposition rendered him universally beloved. Soon after his return from Virginia he was afflicted with an obstinate attack of jaundice, but under the direction of his preceptor Dr. Swett, who recommended his living on raw eggs and milk, and using exercise on horseback, he entirely recovered.

The manners of Dr. Little were very gentle, but his purpose was on all occasions firmly fixed, and he was as remarkable for his great prudence in his words and conduct as for his perseverance. He was able to judge of the characters of men, as well as of their diseases, with great quickness and discrimination. Although much engaged in his profession, his services were bestowed upon the poor and wretched, as readily as upon the affluent, by night as well as by day, and without regarding the inclemencies of the weather. His mind was intelligent and discriminating, rather than brilliant, practical rather than speculative. He was not governed by prejudice either in regard to his





*From a Portrait*

JAMES LLOYD, M.D.

— F. 80. —



theory or practice ; but having investigated as well as he could, he then resolved, and pursued his course in the mildest manner.

He married the daughter of George Williams, Esq. an eminent merchant of Salem, who was a most excellent and accomplished lady. She fell a sacrifice to a consumption of the lungs, and from her in consequence of his unceasing attentions, it is believed, he inhaled the fatal disease. In the year 1809, being sensible that he was threatened with some hectic complaints, he determined to spend the ensuing winter in a southern climate, but on account of the multiplicity of his professional avocations that measure was neglected. He was perfectly aware of the rapid approach of the insidious disease, and marked all its different stages with peculiar accuracy. He wrote for himself the following epitaph :

Here lies the body of Doctor Moses Little who died aged 45.

*Phthisis insatiabilis !*

*Patrem matremque devorasti—*

*Parce ! O parce ! liberis.*

Which his executor placed upon his grave stone, filling up the blank of the time of his death with 13th October, 1811.

He left three children, two of whom have already fallen victims to the same all destroying disease.

LLOYD, JAMES, DR., for nearly sixty years a distinguished physician of Boston, Massachusetts, was the son of Henry Lloyd, Esq., of the Manor of Queen's Village, in Queen's County, on Long Island, in the state of New-York.

His grandfather, James Lloyd, was the first of the family who emigrated from Somersetshire in England to America, about the year 1670, and having married a lady at Shelter Island resided there for a short time, and then at Rhode Island, but finally settled in Boston, where he deceased in 1693 ; having become possessed by purchase, and from marriage of a valuable estate in New-York, subsequently the property of his son Henry Lloyd, the father of the doctor, who removed to, and resided on it greatly respected during a long life ; having prior to his removal from Boston married the daughter of a respectable gentleman, a relative of the families of Temple and Grenville, who came to America in 1675, as the executor of his uncle

Sir Thomas Temple, a former governor of Nova Scotia, and the proprietor of large landed estates in that province, in Maine, and in New-Hampshire.

This gentleman is referred to, by Hutchinson in his History of Massachusetts, as "John Nelson, a revolutioner." Probably the first person to whom that appellation was ever applied in New-England ; and which designation was given him, in consequence of being one of the signers of a message to Sir Edmond Andros in 1689, then governor of the colony, requiring him " forthwith to deliver up the government and the fortifications ;" to the latter of which he had retired for safety, and heading the Bostonians for the enforcement of the demand ; and to whom the governor eventually surrendered both himself and the fort ; and whose subsequent disinterested public services, and severe and long continued sufferings and privations in consequence of them, entitle his memory to be embalmed in the annals of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire ; from having at the peril of his life, and at the price of being transported to France, and for several years imprisoned in the Bastile, a considerable part of which time he was immured in a dungeon, saved those provinces from a bloody and merciless invasion, which was then meditated by the French and the Indians against them.

The books and papers of James Lloyd the elder, which still remain, indicate that he was a man of intelligence and education ; of uncommon regularity in the management of his concerns, and that great confidence was reposed in him ; while the executors of his will, and the guardians of his children show, that his intimates were to be found among those of the most note and standing at that date in the colony. The traditions of the family also show that it had been both ancient and respectable ; while one of his nearer ancestors, having been " Doctor in Physic to Queen Elizabeth," probably gave a professional destiny to the subject of the present memoir, who was born on Long Island in April, 1723, the youngest of a numerous family of ten children.

At an early age he was sent for his education to Stratford in Connecticut ; where, and at New-Haven, but without entering Yale College, he remained for this object several years ; at school he became associated with the late justly celebrated Dr. Samuel William Johnson, extensively and honorably known, by his talents and services

in various elevated public stations, and as President for some years of Columbia College in the state of New-York ; between whom and Dr. Lloyd, a friendship thus commencing in boyhood, was cherished at maturity, and existed, with uninterrupted interest and regard on either side, during the respective long and useful lives of both parties.

At the age of seventeen Dr. Lloyd left Connecticut for Boston, where two of his brothers had been previously settled and very eligibly connected ; the elder as a much respected merchant, and for many years agent of purchases for the British government, which office he held at the commencement of the revolution ; and there entered on the study of medicine with Dr. Clarke, one of the most eminent physicians of his time, whose instructions he continued to receive for nearly five years.

At twenty-two years of age he embarked for England, and devoted two years more to an attendance on the London hospitals, where he had an opportunity to avail of the best professional advantages that could then be commanded, and to witness the practice of Chesselden and Sharpe, as well as to attend the lectures of the other celebrated men, who then presided, and officiated in those institutions ; of William Hunter, Professor of Anatomy, not only whose public lectures for two courses, but whose private instructions, dissections, and operations in surgery Dr. Lloyd sedulously attended ; of William Smellie, the distinguished lecturer on midwifery ; and Joseph Warner, the principal surgeon of Guy's Hospital ; from all of whom, on leaving London, to return to America, he received full assurances of their estimation of his merits : some of which are still extant.

The recollection of him remained so strongly preserved by the gentlemen who gave them, as to lead them, to the numerous medical students, who in a long course of years, Dr. Lloyd had occasion to introduce to the hospitals, frequently to instance him, as an example of correct deportment, close attention, and zeal in his profession well worthy of the emulation of his countrymen ; and on his again visiting England in 1789, after the expiration of nearly forty years, he was recognised, and received with unabated respect and regard by the last survivor of his instructors, the venerable Mr. Warner of Guy's, who at an advanced age, in the enjoyment of an affluent fortune, yet retained the use of his faculties, and an interest in his friends. With

this gentleman Dr. Lloyd had in his pupilage been more intimately connected, than with the other professors ; as for twelve months he had constantly attended him as an assistant in the duties of the hospital, or as technically denominated, his first dresser.

It was a custom at that time which probably may yet be continued, after the students had gone through the usual routine of lectures, and conducted unexceptionably, to give them at the end of their terms, a certificate in a printed form, stating only in writing the single characteristic of their conduct ; the blank left for which, was generally filled, if deserved, with the words "diligently," or "carefully" as applied to their attendance ; this Mr. Warner considered as a too feeble, and common-place testimonial, to do justice to the merits and acquirements of Dr. Lloyd ; to whom on taking leave of him he volunteered, in presenting the following autograph certificate.

*Guy's Hospital, London, March, 1752.*

These are to certify, that Mr. James Lloyd, hath diligently attended the Hospital under me as a dresser, and the lectures of anatomy and surgery for one year ; during which time, he hath behaved with the utmost diligence and care.

And as I know him to be perfectly well qualified in his profession, I think it incumbent on me to recommend him in the strongest manner I am capable of ; and should think myself happy, was it in my power to serve him further.

Witness my hand,

JOSEPH WARNER.

During his attendance on the hospitals, Dr. Lloyd was the contemporary of John Hunter, afterwards distinguished as the first surgeon, physiologist and anatomist of his age, and made not only the acquaintance of this gentleman, but of most of the prominent medical men in London at that time, with many of whom he subsequently long continued in friendly and professional correspondence.

In 1752, Dr. Lloyd returned to America, with a high degree of reputation from his deportment, while previously resident at Boston, and the character he had acquired in his attendance on the hospitals in London, and shortly attained to extensive professional employment ; in the prosecution of which, he adopted the modern practice then existing in England, and especially in surgery and midwife-

ry ; in the former introducing the much improved method of amputation of Chesselton, by the double, instead of the single incision ; and it is believed was the first practitioner of surgery in Boston, if not in New-England, who performed the hazardous operation of lithotomy ; and also the first who substituted ligatures, in lieu of searing the mouths of the arteries by actual cautery, as had been previously in use ; the latter a mode of practice at all times dangerous, and not unfrequently fatal in its consequences to the patient, from the sloughing of the surface of the wound, and the exfoliation of the bone.

Not long after his return, he was appointed Surgeon of Castle William in the harbor of Boston, now Fort Independence ; at that time a garrison station, and depot for the king's troops, on the various changes of the British forces, as it was needful to transfer them, from one post to another in the colonies ; during his holding this station Sir William Howe, then an officer in the army of General Amherst, part of which, after the reduction of Louisbourg, had been ordered to the Lakes, in a severe and dangerous illness fell under the immediate care of Dr. Lloyd, his recovery from which, he always gratefully and publicly attributed to the skill and unceasing attention of his young physician.

The increasing professional calls on Dr. Lloyd, soon obliged him to retire from the Castle ; and when the proposal was agitated of a general inoculation for the small-pox in Boston in 1764, and was again the subject of much apprehension, opposition, and superstitious excitement, Dr. Lloyd became a strenuous advocate for its adoption ; and on its being permitted by the municipal authority, the applications to him for inoculation, in which he was greatly successful, were so numerous as to deprive him of the physical ability to comply with them, as promptly as was desired, although aided by the able and intelligent students then with him, Drs. Rand senior, and Jeffries ; he inoculated five hundred persons in one day, as stated by the former of those respectable gentlemen.

At this period his profession employed all his time, and his practice became more extended, than had been known to have been before possessed by any physician in Boston ; it being said, that in the course of the year, he scarcely enjoyed an undisturbed night's rest ; and that the inhabitants of the street in which he resided, as regularly expected to

hear during the stillness of the night, the well-known clatter of his horse's feet, as the cry of the watchman. To this animal the doctor was always much attached, and was not only a good master to it, but an excellent judge of its properties, as well as an able and graceful horseman to a late period of his life ; and even until his decease, when something more than an octogenarian, he continued to be remarked for the beauty and goodness of his horses.

From the date just referred to, or from about 1758 to 1775, the medical engagements of Dr. Lloyd were as acceptable as could have been desired, while many pupils were attracted to him for the benefit of his instruction, and the advantage of witnessing his practice ; the exact number of these cannot now be ascertained, as neither a list of them has been kept. nor his professional books preserved ; they are known however to have been numerous, several of them to have possessed great merit, and some of them to have attained to great distinction. Among those justly entitled to be thus characterized, may be named, Major General Joseph Warren, who immortalized his fame, by his patriotic death at Bunker's Hill ; Dr. Isaac Rand, senior, Dr. John Jeffries, Dr. John Clarke, and Theodore Parsons.

On the arrival of the British troops in Boston, in 1775, under the command of General Howe, he immediately sought out, and renewed his acquaintance with his former physician ; and together with Lord Percy, subsequently the Duke of Northumberland, who had become the tenant of Dr. Lloyd, from occupying an estate adjoining his own, now the property of Gardiner Greene, Esq., and then under his care from belonging to his relation William Vassal, afforded to him every accommodation, the circumstances of a beleagured and garrisoned town under martial law would admit ; and from his having remained in Boston during the siege, into which the smallpox was introduced by the soldiery, he was happily enabled from his influence with those officers, to aid in procuring permission for a general inoculation, which after being some time refused, from an apprehension of its effects on the troops then exposed to an attack at any moment, was eventually granted ; when he renewedly devoted himself, to relieving and guarding his fellow citizens from this pestilential distemper.

On, or before the evacuation of the town, many of the connexions and friends of Dr. Lloyd, from being in the employment of the government ; the possession of estates in the British West Indies ; or from other causes left the country ; the Doctor was urged to pursue the same course, and to take up his future residence in London, where he was assured of professional patronage and support ; this he declined to do, having determined to remain at Boston.

Immersed in the labors of his profession, and interfering no further in political discussions, than to express his sentiments as an individual when called for ; not theorizing as to the future, and seeing the country at large generally happy, and rapidly increasing, and enjoying himself great prosperity, it could not be a matter of surprise, that with many others, and some of them among the prominent and patriotic actors in the early scenes of that day, he should have thought that the most suitable hour for final separation had not arrived ; that the fruit was not sufficiently matured to be plucked from the parent tree ; and that a course less decisive might have procured a redress of grievances, with a repeal of the oppressive measures of the British government, and have ensured for a still further time, the tranquillity and happiness of the country, without passing for their attainment through the hazards of a revolution.

The error of these opinions, the event has amply proved ; but as the results of an honest independence of judgment they were never disguised by Dr. Lloyd ; without, however, his seeking to find for them either advocates or proselytes, and accompanied also with the avowal, that if he did not wholly coincide with a majority of his countrymen, in the expediency of the measures they pursued, his fortunes were embarked in the same venture with theirs, and would not be counteracted by him. Exempted by his profession from military duty, and taking no active part in political life, this disposition could alone be evinced in an obedience to the laws, the countenance of some of his younger friends in the American service, and in meeting, when required, his proportionate contributions to the public necessities ; which he always did, promptly and without a murmur.

But although ever exulting in the growing greatness of the land of his nativity and his residence, it was scarcely

to be expected, that in the vivid periods of revolutionary excitement, sentiments qualified even as these were, should not have been to a certain extent unpopular, if not obnoxious to suspicion. If this were the case for a short time, the integrity of his character, and the manly unreserved consistency of his conduct, speedily dissipated all unfavorable imputations, and secured for him the continued regard and confidence of his friends, and the respect of the public; and of so little weight was any such impression when it would have most strongly existed, that the first house entered by the veteran and intrepid American Orion,\* when in 1776 with the army from Cambridge, he marched into Boston, to take possession of the town, on its evacuation by the British, was that of his friend the Doctor, to inquire of his welfare, and that of his family, during their protracted confinement, and to take up his abode with them for a short period.

And of the estimation entertained, not only of himself, but of his more immediate connexions, by those who had known both him and them, long and well, not only prior to, but at the commencement, the progress, and issue of the revolutionary contest, some opinion may be formed from the following extract of a letter from the late President Adams to the son of Dr. Lloyd, under date of January 28, 1815, in which he writes :

“Although I have no recollection that I ever met you in society more than once, and that I presume was the instance you have recorded, yet I feel as if I was intimately acquainted with you; the want of familiarity between us I regret, not only because I have known, esteemed, and I may say loved, your family from an early age; but especially—” for other reasons, which this venerated statesman then assigned, but which having only a personal reference to the gentleman to whom they were addressed, are irrelevant to the present occasion.

Of the patriotic and successful leader of the armies of the revolution, and the earliest President of the United States, under that benign, and equal, yet efficient form of government which he assisted to prepare, and give to the American people, under the influence and impress of his mighty name; of the man, equally without compeer or rival, and standing first on the lists of fame, Dr. Lloyd

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\* General Israel Putnam.



was a warm admirer, and to the period of his death, a constant supporter of the system and policy he introduced.

Until the commencement of the American war, the course of Dr. Lloyd had been eminently gilded with sunshine ; he had married at Boston a lady of Scotch parentage, of refinement, and considerable intellectual powers, to whom he was strongly attached ; his connexions were numerous, and of the first standing, embracing a large proportion of those most conspicuous for wealth, or station in the Province ; his engagements occupied all his time, his medical reputation ranking high both at home and abroad, with his professional brethren, as well as with the public ; and to complete this circle of felicities, he was personally beloved by his friends, and respected and esteemed by his associates.

But this summer sea of prosperity was destined like all other human possessions, to feel its ebb, as well as flood ; and although not a political partizan, nor probably having ever attended a political meeting in his life, the temperament of Dr. Lloyd was one of too great sensibility not to be affected by the collisions and contentions of the times, pregnant as they were with momentous results ; the sharp divisions of sentiment between friends of long standing ; the emigration of his family connexions ; and perhaps even more than these, the loss at nearly the same time, of two of his children, sons who were just reaching their adolescence, with the prospect, as he thought, of affording him much future gratification, threw a pall over his hitherto unclouded course, greatly prostrated his spirits, and although constitutionally and habitually of a cheerful and social disposition, caused a depression from which he did not entirely recover for many years, and induced in him a strong desire to withdraw from active life, and to give up or very much abridge his professional business.

This inclination never wholly forsook him, recurring at intervals with great force ; but continuing in the same residence, amid families who had been in the habit of relying on his friendly and professional aid in the hours of adversity and disease, and who were personally attached to him, it was not easily to be effected, without a decision of purpose, alike foreign to his feelings and his habits ; the consequence therefore was, that he retained in the circle of his more immediate friends, a respectable but com-

paratively limited practice so long as he was enabled to be abroad, and until within a few months of his decease.

That this change in the flattering adventitious circumstances with which he had been before surrounded, created in the mind of Dr. Lloyd, no alienation of feeling towards his country, may be demonstrated by something more than by professions. From inheritance he had become possessed of between six and seven hundred acres of the eastern part of his father's estate on Long-Island in New-York, called Queen's-Village or Lloyd's Neck, then remarked for the old and fine growth of timber with which it was covered. This estate, situated about forty miles, by land or by water from the city, and bounded, east and north by the sound, with a navigable bay on the south, easily accessible to shipping, presented too inviting and important an object, either to be overlooked or neglected by the British commander, with his army cooped up in New-York, hemmed in by the American forces on every side on the land, and in extreme want of fuel, both for the use of the garrison and the inhabitants.

A strong detachment of troops was therefore sent on to the estate, who took and retained military possession of it, as long as the British army remained in that vicinity ; and stripping the neck, about three thousand acres in extent, of its wood, forming its greatest value, of a growth coeval with the first settlement of the country, yielding from thirty-five to forty cords the acre, and which had been preserved with great care, it furnished so abundant a supply of fuel, as not only to meet the wants of the troops, but as was said, to give handsome fortunes to some of those, who having a commodity thus indispensable under their exclusive control, were enabled to dole out the surplus beyond the wants of the army, to the destitute and distressed inhabitants of the city, at prices far beyond its accustomed value.

A few years after the termination of the revolutionary war, when compensation was made by the British government to those who had suffered in their property under it, Dr. Lloyd was strongly advised by his friends in England to visit that country, and prefer a claim for the wood that had been taken from his estate on Long-Island. After consulting the late Judge Lowell, a friend of many years, and on whose good judgment the doctor placed great reliance, as to the propriety and expediency of doing this ;

and preparing the needful documents under the direction of this distinguished jurist, Dr. Lloyd visited England for that purpose in 1789.

On his arrival he was received with great kindness and cordiality by his former friends, who also manifested every disposition to aid him in the recovery of his claim ; after an examination of which, a single, but apparently an insuperable objection was stated to exist against its allowance ; this was, that as the remuneration was granted to British subjects, he must avow himself to be one, before he could receive a proportion of it. As the declaration of independence had conclusively settled that question in his mind, he at once declined doing this ; after a time it was however suggested from a source which, though not official, was entitled to respect, that if he would state an intention of becoming a British subject at some future period, the difficulty might probably be gotten over, and compensation be awarded him.

To this he also replied that having no such design in contemplation, he could neither affirm nor intimate it ; the object of his voyage in consequence wholly failed, and in about twelve months after his departure he returned home, sustained for the inconvenience and expense of his absence by a consolation, not without its value, which was derived from the gratification of his having met the wishes of his friends in his efforts to promote the interests of his family ; and from the preservation of a conscious integrity, of greater worth to him, than the treasures of the exchequer.

In 1800 the invaluable discovery of the preventive power of vaccination was made known to the civilized world by Dr. Edward Jenner of Gloucestershire in England ; who by so doing, and by his able, and unremitting endeavors to extend a participation in this blessing to every region of the habitable globe, has entitled himself to the noble characteristic of a benefactor of the human race.

Dr. Jenner's first correspondent in America was Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, at that time Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic at the University in Cambridge ; to whom he made early, detailed and precise communications of the nature, the symptoms, and the effects of the cowpox in its original state, as well as in its progress and operation on the human system.

These communications, together with the admirably colored engravings which accompanied them, giving the most minute and striking representations of the disease in all its tints and phases, Dr. Waterhouse immediately on their receipt, submitted to the inspection and examination of Dr. Lloyd, with whom he had long been in habits of intimate acquaintance, and on whose experience, frankness and good judgment he had an entire reliance.

Fully persuaded of the magnitude of the discovery, Dr. Lloyd promoted the exertions to introduce the practice of vaccination into general use in the United States, by his private consultations ; by his attention to the progress and effects of the disease in the first experiments that were made of it ; and by the public professional certificates he gave of his belief in its importance, its mildness, and its efficacy.

To literary occupations Dr. Lloyd did not give an attention, further than was needful to become possessed of the current, and more popular topics of the day, and of the improvements and discoveries in his profession ; of the latter of which he kept himself well informed, and ever gave to them an earnest observance.

In physic, surgery, and obstetrics, which at the period of his practice were required to be united, he was distinguished for his skill and ability ; having carried to them a mind more than commonly retentive, and well grounded in his profession, and prepared by a seven years previous, and assiduous application under the best instruction, and advantages the time afforded, both in England and America ; to which were added in after life, an experience which had not been exceeded in the sphere of his residence ; and at all times an interest, tenderness, and humanity rarely equalled.

Except in cases of emergency, he was a cautious rather than bold practitioner, preferring to mark the indices of nature in her efforts to obtain relief, and by judiciously following out, to aid all the minute indications, which the "vis medicatrix" could afford him, rather than by hastily prejudging, perhaps rashly to mistake them.

As remarked in a "notice" published in the New England Medical Journal of 1813,\* "Dr. Lloyd owed much

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\* By Dr. James Jackson, President of the Massachusetts Medical Society and Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic in Cambridge University.

to his education ; but he owed much also to the kindness of nature ; to an excellent disposition, and to a correct deportment. He was endued with senses, which were remarkably accurate and acute ; with a faculty of perception unusually prompt ; and as he thought not of words but of things, his combinations were rapid. He read the language of nature with the eye of watchful intelligence, and ministered to her aid with the hand of a master."

Keenly sensitive in his feelings, he at times sympathized perhaps too deeply in the sufferings of his patients, especially when the harrowing siroc of our climate, swept from the scene of earthly action, the opening buds of beauty and of promise, he has occasionally appeared to experience a degree of distress and of sorrow, little less poignant than that of the nearest relatives of the sufferer ; but if this propensity, from the hazard it might sometimes create, of the effect of intense anxiety operating on the judgment, should in the estimation of cooler professional men be considered as a defect ; it would at least in a measure be counteracted, by the sustaining influence, which a knowledge of such dispositions and interest on the part of a physician could scarcely fail to excite in the mind of the patient.

From pretension, jealousy, or sinister projects of every description, no one could be more entirely exempt than Dr. Lloyd ; with his professional brethren he constantly harmonized, his treatment of them being ever courteous, open and respectful ; with them he could have no contentions, for he envied no man's fame, nor feared his competition. To the younger members of the profession, more particularly when he discerned the germs of future usefulness and respectability, he was at all times accessible, and his counsel and patronage to them were as freely afforded, as they were constantly solicited.

Few individuals have been more exempt from a selfish ambition of fame, or avarice of money ; official honors he not only omitted to seek, but was desirous to avoid, and at an early period after the institution of the Massachusetts Medical Society, in opposition to the wishes of his friends, he declined the office of its President.

One of the first diplomas of Doctor in Medicine from the University at Cambridge was granted to Dr. Lloyd, without his previous solicitation or knowledge ; and in

1771, under the like circumstances, he was elected an honorary member of the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia, probably on the nomination of his friend Dr. Morgan of that city, afterwards Surgeon General of the American forces, who had been long known, and much esteemed by Dr. Lloyd, and who with his family were domesticated with him when attached to the medical staff of the army at Boston and its vicinity, in 1776. He was also a member of numerous benevolent and charitable institutions, to which, although he declined to partake their honors, he always readily afforded his counsels, and his contributions.

The very extended practice of Dr. Lloyd, in the early and middle parts of his professional career, undoubtedly afforded him the means of accumulating a large estate, but he was moderate in his fees, and for some years negligent of their collection : to the poor his services were at all times most humanely rendered, and ever free from charge ; not content with this, he frequently became not only their medical adviser, but the almoner to their necessities, and one of the provisions of his last will was, that the debts to him, from those who could ill afford to pay them, should be cancelled ; an injunction that was scrupulously complied with by his executor.

While in the fulness of his business, it is believed he included in the list of his patients, every gentleman of the clerical profession in Boston ; and notwithstanding he had for many years previously been desirous of narrowing his practice, many of these revered and respected pastors asked a continuance of his services, and remained greatly attached to him to the latest period of their lives.

In his person Dr. Lloyd was about the middle stature as to height, not broad, but erect, compactly formed, and remarkable for agility, muscular strength, and a resolution which never faltered. He received from his parents, a sound constitution, which was confirmed in youth, by rural habits, simple diet, and the healthful occupations of the country ; and among them, the pursuit of the deer, which then abounded at the place of his birth, during the moonlight nights of the winter, when the hoofs of the stag breaking through the crust of the snows, left him after short chases at the mercy of his pedestrian pursuers : these gave to him a vigor of health, which never trespassed on by irregularity, and fortified in after life, by tem-

perance, and by constant exercise in the open air, which his profession required, remained nearly unimpaired, and secured to him the enjoyment of this inestimable blessing with some slight exceptions, for the long period of more than eighty years.

In his intercourse with the world, he was decorous, spirited, and gentlemanly, avoiding at all times to give offence; but easily excited though placable in his dispositions, promptly repelling it when considered as so intended against himself; sympathetic and generous in his own dispositions, and readily participating in the feelings and misfortunes of others, not a small number of those who commenced as his patients, became his personal friends, and made him, not only their physician, but the depository of their sorrows, and their counsellor in affliction.

Fond of society, and of employment; a familiar intercourse with his family and friends, and an attention to his garden, which from a rude hill of gravel, he fashioned into a picturesque, terraced panorama, ornamental of the city; they afforded to him his chief sources of amusement, and relaxation, when in middle life, he escaped from the toils of his profession; and at a later period when in its decline, he sought in tranquil and innocent occupation, to smooth the onward progress of his course from time to eternity.

In the cultivation of this garden, he was a scientific and practical horticulturist, and which although circumscribed as to its area, from its position in a densely populated seaport, he stocked with the choicest fruits the climate would mature; for many years, trimming for the greater part, his trees, his vines, and his bushes, with his own hands, and the grapes, the pears, and the English mulberries, the latter a very fine fruit when fully ripe, and scarcely even yet cultivated among us, which it produced, were much prized, and in the vicinity nowhere surpassed.

In making this appropriation of part of his time, he derived a sensible gratification in addition to the pleasing resource it afforded, from its enabling him, not only to contribute to the enjoyment of the immediate circle of his friends, but from the means it gave him, of occasionally assuaging the feverish anguish even of hopeless disease, by an offering of this balsam of nature, to the parched and burning lips of a dying sufferer; as well as from a wide

distribution of the scions of his trees and vines, to extend their propagation, and a participation in them by others as far as they could be supplied ; and many of the proprietors of gardens in the capital, and its neighborhood, are indebted to the care and selection of Dr. Lloyd for some of the best fruits they now possess.

Believing that an overgrown estate, contributed neither to the felicity of its possessor, nor the benefit of his posterity, and that wealth was valuable, not as the end, but the means of enjoyment, he had no avarice of money, and was at all times free in his expenditures, and regardless of them, provided they did not exceed his income ; on this point he was rigidly tenacious, and without urgent cause would not have departed from it ; averse through life from incurring debts, and entering into no speculations, he was enabled, from keeping an aggregate account of his annual expenses to regulate his disbursements in this respect according to his wishes ; but while doing this, his hospitality, although wholly exempted from parade or ostentation, was liberal and expanded ; his house being open to his friends, especially for those of them who had seen better days, and whose fortunes were on the wane, from the interruption of their pursuits, the emigration of their connexions, the event of revolutions, and the unavoidable casualties, and vicissitudes of life ; for several aged and respectable persons of this description of either sex, his mansion was long an Oasis, and probably for the space of thirty years, a week never passed, without the civilities and accommodations of his table, being participated by some one, or more, of these ancient acquaintances.

In domestic life, the conduct of Dr. Lloyd was exemplary ; his attention to his lady whom he married shortly after his establishment at Boston, and who soon became subject to frequent illness from pulmonary affections, which confined her to her chamber, exhibited an instance of the utmost conjugal affection and devotion, as well as of professional skill, and probably by them, her life was preserved for many years ; to do this, was to him an object of his unceasing care, of his morning thoughts and nightly vigils ; and for nearly a quarter of a century, he literally would not suffer the winds of Heaven to visit her too rudely. To his children he allowed an indulgence so unlimited, as could alone find its source, and perhaps its excuse, in the tenderness of his affection, the warmth of



his feelings, and the external occupations by which, at the earlier period of their lives he was engrossed. Of his domestics, he was at all times considerate ; especially in sickness, when they were sure to receive all the care and comfort he could afford them ; and who in return frequently becoming duly sensible of his kindness, remained long in his family, in which several of them deceased, after a service of from thirty to forty years.

The religion of Dr. Lloyd was of the heart ; educated in the Episcopal form of worship, he adhered to it during life, and attended divine service at Trinity Church in Boston, whenever his professional engagements would admit. He was not, however, the slave of forms, or of dogmas, but was ever in charity with all sects of Christians ; believing that those who improved the talents committed to their charge, according to the best lights of their understanding, in purity of purpose, and in imitation of the blessed example of Him who went about doing good, would, as he trusted, hereafter receive, from an all-merciful and bountiful God, the reward of good and faithful servants.

The health of Dr. Lloyd, which had remained unbroken for so long a period, a few years before his death met a severe shock from two falls he received, one with his horse, and the other on the icy steps of his garden ; of these he said little, for he rarely permitted himself to complain, but they evidently shook his frame ; from the time of the occurrence of these accidents, which were not distant from each other, his strength obviously declined until the autumn of 1809, when his debility so much increased, as to induce him to confine himself to the house, and shortly after to his chamber ; occasional slight hæmorrhages from the chest supervened, but without any great suffering ; his prostration of strength gradually becoming more marked, until March, 1810, when after a full knowledge of the approaching termination of his course, and within a few days of his attaining to the age of eighty-two years, he deceased, leaving two children ; a son, before mentioned, bearing his name, and Mrs. Sarah Borland, relict of Leonard Vassal Borland.

Dr. Lloyd bequeathed to his descendants a moderate, but wholly unincumbered estate ; leaving to them also a remembrance greatly endeared to those who knew him best, from an experience of his probity, his skill, his sym-

pathies and his tenderness ; and still after a lapse of nearly twenty years from his death, it not unfrequently happens, that on viewing an almost speaking likeness of him, from the pencil of the most eminent portrait painter of his time,\* by persons of this description, it is apostrophized by them in terms of mingled respect, affection and regret.

The concluding remarks in the discourse delivered March 25th, 1810, on the occasion of the death of "this excellent physician," by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner, will close the present biographical sketch, in which the eloquent divine, after describing the character, and many of the occurrences in the life of the deceased, observes, "for most of these, relative to his profession, I am indebted to one who knew him well,† who loved and revered him while living, and will never cease to cherish his memory with the fondest recollection."

"Such, my brethren, was Dr. James Lloyd ; and if the value of a citizen is to be estimated by his public and private utility, this town has never, perhaps, sustained a greater loss : for nearly fifty-eight years he was in extensive practice, and there is perhaps no physician now living, to whom so many individuals have been under professional obligations.

"The public have lost in him a practitioner of first rate skill and respectability ; polished society, a gentleman of consummate good breeding ; his country, a firm friend ; the poor, a most benevolent benefactor ; his own family, the fondest parent and grandfather ; and his domestics, the kindest master and patron.

"He has descended to the grave full of years and honor, an ornament to his profession, and an example to his survivors, with the esteem and veneration of all who knew him, and with the blessing of those ready to perish."—*Hon. James Lloyd.*

LOW, JAMES, M.D., was born at Albany, December 9th, 1781. His early education was completed at the academy and college in Schenectady. He then commenced the study of medicine with the late Dr. William McClelland, of Albany, and after remaining with him for three years, proceeded to Edinburgh, where he spent four years in attending the lectures at the celebrated university in that place. During a part of the above time he was a private

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\* Gilbert Stewart.

† Dr. Rand, senior.

pupil of the late eminent lecturer on chemistry, John Murray, M.D. Dr. Low was graduated at Edinburgh in 1807. The subject of his inaugural dissertation was Tetanus, but the writer of this sketch has often heard him mention that he had prepared one on the non contagious nature of yellow fever ; objections were, however, made to it from a quarter which could not be resisted, and he was obliged to select another subject. The standing of Dr. Low among his fellow students, may be estimated from the fact that he was elected one of the presidents of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh.

After travelling over many parts of England and Scotland, Dr. Low returned to his native country in 1808, and shortly after commenced the practice of medicine in connexion with his former preceptor Dr. McClelland. His reputation as a skilful and learned physician, and an able and expert surgeon, soon became widely diffused and introduced him into extensive business. He was also distinguished as a man of science, and became one of the most useful and active members of the society for the promotion of useful arts. Among his successful labors, besides those mentioned below, was the publication, in 1809, of Hooper's Physician's Vade Mecum, with translations of all the formulæ, and the addition of many valuable notes. In 1814, in conjunction with another, he edited Benjamin Bell's Treatise on the Venereal Disease, adding copious notes adapted to the improved state of practice in these diseases.

During the last years of his life his health was much impaired, and after much suffering he died at Albany, February 3d, 1822. His loss to society was great, as he bade fair at one period of his life, not only to be one of the first physicians in the state, but also to become a leading agent in promoting the interests of learning. During several years he delivered lectures on chemistry with great acceptance, and displayed a perfect acquaintance with that important and popular branch of study. He was a scholar well versed in the languages, an enthusiast in poetry, and a man of extensive and varied information. The following is believed to be a complete list of the publications of Dr. Low.

1. *Dissertatio Inauguralis De Tetano*. Edinburgh, 1807. Dedicated to John Murray and Alexander Macdonald, Esq.

2. Account of the Epidemic Pneumonia, which lately prevailed at Albany and other parts of the state of New-York. Published in the Medical Register, Volume IV.

3. Researches on the Light manifested in the Combustion of inflammable Substances. Translated from the French of Count Rumford. Transactions of the Society of Useful Arts, Volume III.

4. Observations on the Moth which proved destructive to Bees. Ibid. Volume IV.

5. Notes to Hooper's Vade Mecum.

6. Notes to Bell on the Venereal.—*T. R. Beck.*

MANNING, DR. JOHN, was the oldest son of Dr. Joseph Manning of Ipswich, Massachusetts, a respectable practitioner of medicine in that place for nearly sixty years, who died in the 80th year of his age. Dr. John Manning was born in November, 1737, was fitted for the practice of medicine under his father's instruction, and commenced practice at Newmarket, New-Hampshire, in 1759.

He returned to Ipswich in 1760, where he continued to practise in his profession until 1771, when with the laudable view of a more finished education he repaired to England, and visited, as a medical student, several hospitals in London, particularly Westminster Lying-in Hospital; attended Professor John Leake's lectures, and received his certificate under the hospital seal, declaring that Dr. John Manning had frequent and uncommon opportunities of extensive practice; also of seeing the method of treating, and the manner of prescribing for the various disorders incident to childbearing women, and infants; and that he was in all respects regularly qualified for the practice of midwifery. Dr. Leake has, at the close of his second volume on chronic diseases, seventh London edition, printed 1792, included Dr. Manning's name in his list of medical students. While in London, he made himself particularly acquainted with Dr. Sutton's improved method of treating smallpox, and was himself inoculated in London.

He returned to America in 1772, and resumed practice in his native town; and having erected insulated temporary hospitals he carried several classes through the smallpox successfully by inoculation. After the battle on Bunker's Hill he volunteered his assistance in dressing the wounded, was at Cambridge with the American troops, and served as surgeon one campaign on Long Island and Rhode

Island. Dr. Manning was frequently employed in Boston as an inoculator of the smallpox, and by his address and successful mode of practice he overcame the prejudice and opposition which he was called to encounter. As a practising accoucheur he attained to considerable celebrity, and was highly valued not only in his native town, but in an extensive surrounding country, where he was frequently called in consultation, and he enjoyed the confidence and affection of the people.

He was for several years a member of the house of representatives, and constantly adhered to the party denominated democratic republicans. He was a regular attendant on public worship, and always opposed to sectarian controversies. In his habits he was undeviatingly temperate and regular. His life was long protracted, and after about a week's illness he quietly departed in November, 1824, having nearly completed his 87th year. Among the children of Dr. Manning, three sons have been initiated into the medical profession, and are respectably established.

McCLURG, JAMES, M.D. was born in the county of Elizabeth City in Virginia, and was educated at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg. He was highly distinguished for his attainments in classical learning at a place where at that period this department of literature was taught by able professors from the English universities, and cultivated with as much ardor and success as in any other part of this country.

The state of his health induced his father, Dr. Walter McClurg, to send him to Europe before he had attained the age of manhood, and he devoted a much longer time than is usual to the study of his profession. He was engaged several years as a student of medicine in Edinburgh, where his genius and acquirements were held in the highest estimation by the professors of that university, and obtained for him the friendship of the celebrated Drs Cullen and Black, and other eminent men at that seat of literature.

In June, 1770, he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine. His inaugural essay "De Calore," was highly thought of at the time, as containing profound and original thoughts on the subject to which it relates, and has been since said to have the credit of first advancing some

of the opinions which have been confirmed by the founders of the French school of chemistry.

From Edinburgh he went to Paris, where he attended several courses of medical lectures, and he afterward spent some time in the study of his profession in London. While in that city he published his "Essay on the Bile," a work which at once established his character as a man of talents and a learned physician, and still maintains a high reputation, as well for acuteness and accuracy of investigation, as for a purity and classical elegance of style, seldom attained by writers on professional or scientific subjects.

Though strongly advised by some of those who occupied the highest standing among the Faculty in London to fix in that capital, he returned to his native country about the year 1772 or 1773, and established himself in Williamsburg, then the seat of government; and though in that part of Virginia there was a number of able physicians, educated in the first schools in Europe, he was in a short time universally admitted to be at the head of his profession, and that station, without effort or pretension on his part, was by common consent assigned to him until at an advanced age he retired wholly from practice. The seat of government being removed to Richmond, he changed his residence to that city about the year 1783, and continued to reside there until his death, which took place in July, 1823, at the age of seventy-seven.

In the exercise of his profession Dr. McClurg enjoyed the advantages derived from the study of the works, in the languages in which they were written, of the most distinguished authors on the science of medicine, ancient and foreign, as well as English, from an assiduous attendance on the first schools abroad, and a personal acquaintance with many of the most learned physicians in Europe; and his profound views of the philosophy of the art, his intuitive sagacity, his minute attention to the varying symptoms of diseases in different constitutions and under different circumstances, the eminent success with which his methods of treatment were attended, and his humanity and tenderness towards his patients, while they inspired confidence, secured respect and affection. Those diseases of climate most frequent in the country where he practised, were necessarily the constant subjects of his observation, and in the course of a long and successful treatment

of them it can hardly be doubted that much public benefit would have accrued from his publishing the result of his experience ; and it is to be regretted that he never wrote for the public on professional subjects after his return from Europe. This might in some degree be owing to his pecuniary circumstances, which rendered it unnecessary for him to engage actively in general practice, but more to his modesty and aversion to every appearance of display, which perhaps he carried too far. Had he remained in Europe, or established himself in one of our large cities, it is not improbable that his zeal for the advancement of medical science might have led him to a different course. For many years before his decease he was most generally employed as a consulting physician, and although well acquainted with the science of anatomy, and in his earlier years with the art of surgery, from the beginning of his practice in Virginia the great delicacy of his nerves rendered him averse to the performance of any surgical operation, and in his own opinion unfit for it ; and he rarely, if ever, performed one.

In private life his habits were studious and sedentary. Though well acquainted with the modern history of medical science, his attention, after he had passed the meridian of life, was more generally directed to the study of polite literature. Averse to mixing in crowds, his conversation and acquaintance were sought after and cultivated by most of the eminent men who in his time have done honor to Virginia ; and he took pleasure in improved and intelligent society, where he was always distinguished by the simple dignity and amenity of his manners, the extent of his knowledge, the solidity of his understanding, and the brilliancy of his wit ; never obtrusive and always controlled by taste and good breeding.

Though never a candidate for public favor, he was for a long time one of the council of state in Virginia. He was also a member of the convention that formed the constitution of the United States, but his private affairs called him from Philadelphia before a final vote was taken on that instrument.

Having had the misfortune to lose first his only son, and afterwards his wife, a number of years before his decease, he passed the latter period of his life in the family of his daughter and only remaining child.

In old age his constitution, always delicate, became more infirm ; but the faculties of his mind remained unimpaired, and the serenity of his temper undisturbed to the last. He died as he had lived, universally esteemed and respected, and most beloved and venerated by those who best knew him.

Such was Dr. McClurg, and none will deny the fidelity of the delineation. It has been already stated that his work on the Bile may be considered as a most favorable exhibition of his powers, and the curious will revert to it as one of the early efforts made for the purpose of unfolding animal chemistry, a science since so elaborately and successfully cultivated. In his introduction on reasoning in medicine he fully shows that his views of the study of physic were of the most extensive sort. He considered every branch of science as kindred and capable of mutual illustration. "The sciences," says he, "like the graces, march hand in hand, and nothing would be more vain than an attempt to pursue any one of them separately." He warmly opposed the separation of physic and surgery as unnatural, and insisted that it would be for the advantage of both to unite them : yet he does admit, as far as simple dexterity is concerned, the chirurgical art has been improved by the separation. "We expect," says he, "that the surgeon should be acquainted with the powers of the machine, and be able to tell, *quid ferat, atque faciat natura*. And thus, his art is so strictly connected with medicine as to justify the remark of Petit ; and though it may be useful to practise them separately, they should certainly be studied together." The interesting paper of Dr. McClurg from which the preceding is taken, will be found in the Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences, edited by Professor Chapman, Vol. I.

The local situation of Dr. McClurg prevented him from witnessing the operation of that malignant pestilence which has so frequently desolated our large cities. Yet his active mind appears to have reflected much on the subject, and with his usual force and discrimination. In a letter to his friend Dr. Hosack, from whom many of the particulars of the present article are derived, written some time previous to his death, in speaking of the nature of the yellow fever, he puts this query ; "May not the Philadelphia fever, which seems to depend upon heat for its existence, have been rather suspended, in some instances,



than extinguished by the winter's cold, and have revived again in a favorable season without a fresh importation?" This is a suggestion which has had some little influence, but its support on the solid basis of facts cannot be admitted.

**MCKNIGHT, CHARLES, M.D. M.M.S.S.** The subject of the present memoir was born on the 10th of October, 1750, at Cranbury, Monmouth county, New-Jersey. His father was Charles McKnight, a native of Ireland and son of the Rev. John McKnight, a dissenting minister of respectability in that country. At an early age he gave evidence of superior talents, and after having passed through his preparatory studies with much credit, was admitted a student in the college at Princeton, and received the degree of A. B. in 1771.

He now commenced the study of medicine under the direction of the late Dr. Shippen of Philadelphia. Before, however, he had qualified himself for the exercise of his profession, the revolutionary war in America took place, and young McKnight, with a number of medical gentlemen, entered the army, considering that the place best calculated to enlarge his practical knowledge. Here his abilities soon attracted the attention of the commander in chief, and he was in a short time promoted to the rank of senior surgeon of the flying hospital in the middle department. In the discharge of the important and arduous duties of his station, his talents and indefatigable zeal were equally conspicuous. Although surrounded by the most discouraging circumstances, and exposed to all the hardships necessarily connected with that department of the American army, he was preeminently conspicuous for the performance of all those duties, which the peculiar situation of his country required, and his humane disposition led him to undertake.

At the conclusion of the war he removed to New-York, and married Mrs. Litchfield, only daughter of the Hon. John M. Scott. Our city could not, at that time, boast of the medical school it now has, or his talents would undoubtedly have procured for him the Professorship of Anatomy and Surgery. He, however, delivered lectures on these two branches of medical science to a numerous and attentive class of scholars, while the profundity of his research, and the acuteness of his genius, gained for him the approbation even of the most fastidious. In a life of

constant activity, both as a practitioner and a teacher, he continued until he arrived at his forty-first year, when a pulmonic affection put a period to his labors and usefulness.

Dr. McKnight, though eminent as a physician, was particularly distinguished as a practical surgeon, and, excepting the late Dr. Richard Bayley of New-York, was without a rival in this branch of his profession. Gifted by nature with talents peculiarly calculated for the exercise of the important duties of a surgeon, his education, in an especial manner, enabled him to attain the highest reputation. The only production of Dr. McKnight which is published, is an interesting account of a case of extra-uterine foetus, in the memoirs of the Medical Society of London, Volume IV. This case is often referred to by medical writers, and its interest has lately increased by the discovery of the preparation itself, preserved in a glass jar and found in the ground of a cellar in New-York. It confirms the views of those who believe in the entire production and perfection of the human foetus extra uterum.—*Hosack and Francis's Medical and Philosophical Register, Volume II.*

MIDDLETON, PETER, M.D. This gentleman, a native of Scotland, flourished in the profession of medicine in the city of New-York about the middle of the last century, and was one of the very few medical men of this country who at that early period were distinguished equally for various and profound learning and great professional talents. He with Dr. J. Bard, in 1740, dissected a human body and injected the blood vessels, which was the first attempt of the kind to be found on medical record in America, and in 1767 he proffered his services for carrying into effect the establishment of a new medical school in the city of New-York, of which he was appointed the first professor of Physiology and Pathology, and afterwards was the instructor in *Materia Medica*.

In his profession he was learned and liberal, and his whole life was a practical illustration of his doctrines. He wrote an able letter on the Croup, addressed to Dr. Richard Bayley, which was published in the *Medical Repository*, Volume IX. He was also author of a *Medical Discourse or Historical Inquiries into the ancient and present state of medicine*, the substance of which was delivered at the opening of the Medical School of New-

York ; it was published in 1769, and is an honorable specimen of his talents and attainments.

This highly respectable man for a considerable period struggled with an impaired state of health, induced by the toils of a laborious practice, and after enduring the severest bodily suffering for more than ten months from a stricture and scirrhus state of the pylorus, died in the city of New-York in 1781.

MILLER, EDWARD, M.D., was a native of Dover, in the state of Delaware. He was born on the 9th of May, 1760. His father was the Rev. John Miller, A.M., originally of Boston, Massachusetts, who, for more than forty-three years, sustained the office of pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Dover, and who died in the year 1791. His mother was Margaret Millington, daughter of Allumby Millington, Esq. of Talbot County, Maryland, a woman of extraordinary prudence, piety and benevolence, who was removed by death about eighteen months before her husband. Edward was their third son, and received the early part of his education under the paternal roof. His father who was an excellent Greek, Latin and Hebrew scholar, commenced his instruction in classical literature. At the age of fourteen, he was sent to the Academy of Newark, in his native state, which then enjoyed a very high reputation. There, under the direction of the Rev. Drs. Francis Allison and Alexander McDowell, he devoted four years to the diligent study of the Latin and Greek languages, and went through the usual course of arts and sciences pursued in colleges. Indeed the academy of Newark was at that time a college in every thing excepting the name. Having completed his academic course in 1778, he entered on the study of medicine soon afterwards under the direction of Dr. Charles Ridgely, an eminent physician of Dover, who regarded him as a favorite pupil, and always treated him with peculiar and affectionate confidence.

He had been a little more than two years with Dr. Ridgely, when, in the autumn of 1780, fired with that patriotic ardor which he manifested till his latest breath, not at all discouraged by the loss of a beloved brother, also a physician, who a little more than three years before, had fallen a sacrifice to the hardships of the revolutionary contest ; and desirous also of enjoying the advantages for medical improvement, which a large military hospital em-

inently affords ; he accepted the appointment of surgeon's mate in the army of his country. In this capacity he served a little more than a year. In the latter part of the year 1781, at the solicitation of some friends, he accepted the place of surgeon on board of an armed ship bound to France. In this voyage, and in that country, he spent the greater part of a year. In the course of this time he acquired the French language, which he ever afterwards read and spoke with fluency. Towards the close of 1782 he returned to his native country. In each of the two following winters he attended regular courses of medical lectures in the University of Pennsylvania ; and in that institution received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, after writing, defending, and afterwards printing, as was then required, a medical dissertation *De Physconia Splenica*.

Dr. Miller in the year 1784 commenced the practice of medicine in the village of Frederica, a short distance from his native town in Delaware ; but soon afterwards removed to Somerset County, in Maryland. Here also his stay was short. In 1786 he returned to Dover, and entered on the practice of his profession in his native place. Here he remained ten years, enjoying a large and lucrative practice, and rapidly growing in knowledge and reputation. During this time he was not only a devoted and successful student himself ; but he was unwearied in his exertions to promote medical science throughout his native state. In company with his venerable friend, Dr. Tilton, and others, he assisted in forming the first " Medical Society of Delaware ;" delivered its first annual Oration ; and as long as he remained in the state, took an active part in all the important proceedings of that association.

In the year 1793, when the yellow fever first prevailed to an alarming extent in Philadelphia, the medical controversy respecting its origin began to attract general attention in this country. Dr. Miller, though then residing in Dover, and of course considerably removed from the centre and heat of the battle, was by no means inattentive to its nature or its progress. He at that time, from the best comparison of testimony on the subject which he was able to make, decided in favor of the doctrine of domestic origin, and wrote a long and interesting letter to Dr. Rush, stating his views, and the grounds of his opinion. This letter was afterwards published in most of the American newspapers, and drew from the illustrious man to



whom it was addressed, the public declaration, that he considered its author as "second to no physician in the United States." It is believed that the letter in question was one of the earliest publications made in support of the opinion which it espoused.

In 1796 Dr. Miller removed from Dover to the city of New-York. Here he soon conciliated the esteem and confidence of his medical brethren ; and notwithstanding the many disadvantages under which a stranger engages in the competition for medical practice in a great city, he succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations. His business, in a few months, became such as to afford him an ample support, and continued to become more and more extensive until his death.

In a few weeks after his removal to New-York, Dr. Miller, in connexion with his friends, Dr. Mitchell and the late Dr. Elihu H. Smith, formed the plan of a periodical publication to be devoted to medical science. Their prospectus was issued in November of that year, 1796 ; and in the month of August, 1797, the first number of the work appeared, under the title of the "Medical Repository." The commencement of this publication undoubtedly forms an era in the literary and medical history of our country. No work of a similar kind had ever appeared in the United States. Its influence in exciting and recording medical inquiries, and in improving medical science, soon became apparent. It led to the establishment of other and similar works in different parts of our own country, as well as of Europe ; and may thus, with great truth, be said to have contributed more largely than any other single publication to that taste for medical investigation and improvement, which has been, for a number of years, so conspicuously and rapidly advancing on this side of the Atlantic. Dr. Miller lived to see the fifteenth volume of this work nearly brought to a close, and rejoiced in the generous competition which it had been so evidently the means of exciting.

Dr. Miller had not been many years established in the practice of his profession in New-York, before he received testimonies of public confidence of the most decisive and honorable kind. In 1803, under the act of the legislature of the state for preventing the introduction of pestilential diseases, he was appointed "Resident Physician" for the city of New-York. This office he continued to hold from

that time, with the exception of a single year, until his death ; and through the several pestilential seasons which succeeded this appointment, he fulfilled its duties, as all acknowledged, with skill, intrepidity, and universal acceptance. The summer and autumn of 1805 was the last season in which Dr. Miller was called to witness, to any considerable extent, the ravages of yellow fever. At the close of the season, in his official character as Resident Physician, he addressed to His Excellency Governor Lewis, a report of the rise, progress and termination of that disease. To this detail he added an exhibition and defence of the doctrine concerning the origin of yellow fever, which, after much inquiry and long experience, he had adopted. This report was shortly afterwards laid before the public ; and has been pronounced by good judges to be one of the most luminous, forcible, comprehensive and satisfactory defences of the doctrine which it supports, that ever appeared, within the same compass, in any language.

In 1807 Dr. Miller was elected Professor of the Practice of Physic in the University of New-York. This appointment was made in the month of March, he entered on the duties of the office in November following ; and continued to fulfil them, with increasing popularity and usefulness, until near the period of his death. In 1809 he was appointed one of the physicians of the New-York Hospital ; and soon afterwards received the appointment of clinical lecturer in that institution. To the arduous duties of these several stations he devoted himself with indefatigable zeal and fidelity, and, at the same time, with an urbanity of manner, which conciliated the respect and admiration of all who had an opportunity of witnessing them.

While Dr. Miller was assiduously and ably fulfilling these duties, and attending also to the multiplied calls of a large professional practice, he carried on an extensive correspondence with distinguished physicians, and other literary gentlemen of eminence, in almost every part of Europe and America. From Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany, and the West India Islands, he habitually received communications, which rendered him, in a degree which could be ascribed to very few medical gentlemen in the United States, a centre of intelligence for every thing pertaining to the improvement of the science to

which he had devoted his life. For this correspondence he was peculiarly qualified. He had a facility and elegance in letter writing, which have been rarely equalled, and perhaps never surpassed.

In 1805 he was elected a member of the "Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful knowledge." The principal medical societies of almost all the states in the Union also enrolled his name among their corresponding or honorary members. And the letters which every week flowed in upon him from all quarters, communicating medical intelligence, or soliciting professional advice, furnished the most decisive evidence of the large share of public confidence which he enjoyed, and of his growing reputation.

Thus occupied in public and private business, accumulated to such an amount as scarcely to leave him an hour of repose, either by day or by night, he was arrested by that iron grasp of Disease, from which he had so often been the means of disengaging others; and to the grief of all who knew him, sunk under its power. He fell a victim to an inflammatory attack upon the lungs, which, after symptoms of convalescence, degenerated into a typhus fever, which put an end to his valuable life on the 17th day of March, 1812, in the 52d year of his age.

From the foregoing details it will be manifest that Dr. Edward Miller was a physician of very uncommon endowments, and that he filled an uncommonly large and important space in the republics of medicine and literature in his day. His native talents were, undoubtedly, of the first order. Nor was his intellectual culture less eminent. His acquaintance with the best writers in his own language was unusually intimate and extensive, and hence his own style of writing had an ease, elegance and spirit very rarely attained. He was also a radical and accurate Latin, Greek, and French scholar, and took pleasure in maintaining to the end of life a familiarity with many of the best works in those languages. But in medical science, and as a practitioner of the healing art, he shone with peculiar lustre. Dr. Rush, as we have seen, pronounced him "inferior to no physician in the United States."

Dr. Miller's published writings were not numerous. A few of them were originally printed in detached pamphlets; but the greater part first appeared in the Medical

Repository. Since his decease they have been collected and reprinted in one large octavo volume.

The moral and social qualities of Dr. Miller were worthy of no less praise than his talents, learning and professional skill. His probity and honor were of the most scrupulous and delicate character. From his earliest youth he appeared not only to abhor every thing directly and openly dishonest ; but even to recoil with the most delicate sense of moral obligation from every species of intrigue and questionable dealing. This characteristic became more strongly marked as he advanced in life. If any measure approaching to obliquity were proposed in any association of which he was a member, he never failed to express his entire disapprobation of it, and utterly to decline taking any part in its execution. Nor could any thing more decisively induce him to take a final leave of such an association than the discovery, that it was beginning to be the theatre of cabal, or of any kind of crooked policy. It may be doubted whether any man ever left behind him a reputation for integrity and honor more perfectly unsullied.

His humanity and practical beneficence were no less conspicuous. These were manifested throughout his professional life, and especially in his attendance on the poor and friendless, to an extent truly rare. The amount of his gratuitous services to this class of his patients, has been seldom equalled in a medical life of equal length. But toward all classes of his patients, kindness, gentleness, liberality of feeling and generosity shone with unrivalled lustre.

His delicacy in conversation has been seldom equalled ; perhaps never exceeded. Nothing ever escaped from his lips, even in his most unreserved moments, to which the most refined and scrupulous might not listen without offence. This was remarkably the case even in those periods of his life when he was less under the influence of religious principle, than during the latter stages. To say any thing which might tinge the cheek of modesty, or wound the ear of piety, he considered to be as unworthy of a gentleman, as it was criminal.

Nor was his temperance less conspicuous than his delicacy. He not only avoided the use of ardent spirits, with a scrupulousness which to some might appear excessive ; but he was unusually sparing, and even abstemious in the



use of every kind of drink stronger than water. He rejected the use of tobacco in every form, not only as an odious and unhealthful practice, but also as a most insidious provocative to the love of drinking. Nor was his temperance confined to a single class of stimuli. It was no less exemplary, and even rigid with regard to all the indulgences of the palate. Perhaps no man, who, from early life, mingled so much with all classes of society, was ever more uniformly abstemious both in eating and drinking than Dr. Miller.

His superiority to the love of money, was another distinguishing feature in his character. Had the acquisition of wealth been his supreme, or even among his principal objects, he might have died rich. But he was too much engaged in the studies and duties of his profession, to think much of its emoluments. It was seldom that he could be prevailed upon to present an account, and even when it was produced, his debtors themselves being judges, it was seldom to such an amount as justice to himself required. From the great extent of his practice, some of his less intimate acquaintances imagined that its profits were proportionally great. But besides medical services, to the amount of many thousand dollars, which his benevolence prevented him from charging at all, many thousands more were either voluntarily surrendered at the solicitation of real or fancied poverty, or totally lost from having never been sought after.

Dr. Miller never married. But although he left no immediate family to mourn over his premature death, it may be truly said, that such was his social amiableness, as well as his professional eminence, that thousands, when his death was announced, considered themselves as having lost a beloved relative.

Although Dr. Miller never united himself to the christian church, in what is commonly called full communion, he was always a firm believer in Revelation; often declared his persuasion that the system usually deemed correct by the denomination of christians in connexion with which he was educated, is the system taught in the Holy Scriptures; uniformly treated religion as an object of infinite importance, and worthy of the deepest veneration; and toward the latter part of his life, was employed as much as his numerous engagements permitted, in the devout perusal of the Holy Scriptures. There was scarcely

any thing which he more disapproved, or which was more apt to excite his indignation, than sneers or scoffing directed against religion or its professors.

Perhaps this imperfect record of a distinguished man cannot be more properly closed than by the following sentences, from the pen of Dr. Rush, who, after having spoken in the most exalted terms of his professional learning and skill, concludes thus. "But his principal merit was of a moral nature. The charm that was constantly diffused over his countenance and manners, was the effect of the habitual benevolence of his temper. The silence of pain, and the eye of hope, which took place in his patients the moment he sat down by their bedsides, were produced, not more by their conviction of his skill, than by their unlimited confidence in his sympathy and integrity; and the affectionate attachment and esteem of his friends were founded in a belief that his deeds of kindness to them were not simply the effects of spontaneous feeling, but the result of a heartfelt sense of moral obligation! Let the professors and students of the healing art, and the lovers of science every where, deplore the death of this eminent physician and excellent man. Let the friends of humanity drop a tear over his untimely grave. In the records of illustrious men who have promoted and adorned the science of our country, Dr. Miller will always maintain a distinguished rank."—*S. Miller.*

MITCHELL, JOHN, M.D. F.R.S. a distinguished physician and botanist, came from England to this country about the year 1700, and settled in Virginia at the small town of Urbanna, situated on the Rappahannock. While he was occupied in an extensive practice, he spent considerable time in the cultivation of botany, and wrote a useful work on the general principles of the science, containing descriptions of several new genera of plants, which was published in 1769. In 1743 he wrote an interesting and original Essay on the Causes of the Different Colors of People of Different Climates, which was published in the Philosophical Transactions. He attributes the difference of complexion in the human species to the influence of climate and the modes of life; and thinks that the whites have degenerated more from the original complexion of Noah and his family, than the Indians, or even Negroes. The color of the descendants of Ham, he considers a blessing rather than a curse, as without it they could not

well inhabit Africa. His principles were afterwards adopted by President Smith, of Princeton College, New-Jersey, who wrote a more extended essay on the subject.

He wrote various other essays, which were published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and which did him great credit as a man of genius and observation; but his most valuable production, perhaps, is a paper which he drew up on the yellow fever as it appeared in Virginia in 1737, 1741 and 1742. This paper, left by him in manuscript, fell into the hands of Dr. Franklin, who communicated it to Dr. Rush. Dr. Rush not only read the essay with interest, but acknowledges that he derived from it hints which assisted him in detecting the true nature and method of treating the yellow fever, as it appeared in Philadelphia in 1793. Few physicians who have lived in our country, have been more justly celebrated for originality of genius and accuracy of observation, than Dr. Mitchell. He lived to practise his profession nearly fifty years in Virginia. The series of highly interesting papers above mentioned, including the account of yellow fever written in 1744 by Dr. Mitchell, with a reply of Dr. Colden of New-York to Dr. M., and a subsequent letter of Dr. Mitchell on the same subject, were placed in the hands of Dr. Hosack by the late Professor Rush, a short time previous to his death, with the intention of their being published in the *American Medical and Philosophical Register*. These, with additional observations on the yellow fever of Virginia, addressed to Dr. Franklin by Dr. Mitchell in 1745, may be found in the fourth volume of that work. Few papers, it is believed, will be read with more interest, particularly when it is considered how extremely important Dr. Rush viewed them as affording him new facts respecting the nature of the same epidemic at the time it prevailed in Philadelphia in 1793.

MITCHELL, DR. AMMI RUHAMMI, M.M.S.S. was born at North Yarmouth, District of Maine, May 8th, 1762. He was the eldest son of the Honorable David Mitchell, who was for nineteen years a judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Cumberland, and was repeatedly chosen into both branches of the legislature of Massachusetts. The subject of this notice was in infancy dedicated to God, and enjoyed the faithful religious instructions and examples of pious parents during the period of his childhood and youth. He early discovered a vigor-

ous and active mind, and particularly a ready and retentive memory, He had an ardent thirst for knowledge, and made more than ordinary attainments in classical learning in the grammar school of his native town. The "troubled times" of the revolutionary war prevented his entering college agreeably to his own desire and his father's intention.

Before he had completed his nineteenth year, he commenced the study of medicine with the late Dr. Cutter, of Portsmouth. While there, a favorable opportunity presented for going abroad to finish his professional studies. The *America*, a 74 gunship built at Portsmouth by the United States, was presented to the French nation by our Congress as a token of gratitude for the services rendered in the struggle for Independence, and to replace a French ship which had been lost on our coast. Dr. Meaube, an amiable French gentleman of professional eminence, had come to this country to return as surgeon in the *America*. During his short stay in Portsmouth he had formed a strong attachment for young Mitchell, and invited him to accompany him on his return to France, offering him the place of surgeon's mate. The kind offer was accepted; and in a short time they landed at Brest, where he enjoyed all the advantages which the large marine hospital in that city could supply. Here he had constant opportunities of witnessing or assisting at almost every variety of chirurgical operations which were known at that time. He received while in France every proof of affection and kindness, not only from Dr. Meaube, whose friendship was abiding and whose conduct truly paternal, but also from others, and his voyage abroad, with all its attending advantages, was without expense to himself, except, perhaps, his passage home.

Soon after his return to the land of his nativity, he commenced practitioner of physic and surgery at North Yarmouth, where he continued during life. As a physician and surgeon, his abilities were undisputed; and in the early part of his life his practice extended into the surrounding region, affording him constant employment, and acquiring for him professional fame. His practice was attended with success, and the confidence of his patients in him was unlimited. If they could procure Dr. Mitchell, they were satisfied that all would be done for them which human skill could effect. There seemed to be two causes,

independently of his medical skill, which contributed materially to his success ; one, his habitual practice of asking the blessing of God on the means he employed ; the other, the power which his winning and affectionate manner gave him of quelling the groundless and unreasonable apprehensions of his patients. Yet when he believed them to be in real danger, it was his uniform practice to urge them in the tenderest manner to prepare for the worst.

His memory was uncommonly retentive, his mind well disciplined, and so versatile, that he could apply it to a new task every half hour in the twenty-four, if there was a call for it ; and appear as much at home in each, and with as entire a command of his faculties, as if that had been his only and constant study. With all his weight and influence he had a vein of humor, which sometimes flowed to excess, and an exhaustless fund of anecdote, the effect of which was not easily resisted, but would spread like contagion through the company, even when sobriety would have been more suitable. His flashes of wit and facetious remarks rendered him an entertaining associate in all companies. With his affectionate manner, his winning address, his obliging disposition, his noble generosity, his fascinating conversation, and the readiness with which he could make his way to the heart, he might have allured thousands to destruction. But he perverted not his gifts and faculties, but employed his influence in resisting the tide of human depravity, and in promoting moral rectitude and the eternal welfare of the human species.

Religion was indeed the most prominent trait in his character. For thirty-five years he was a preeminently active member of the church, nor did his exertions in her cause cease but with life. Dr. Mitchell was a deacon in the first church in North Yarmouth twenty-one years, his father twenty-six years, and the same office was sustained by his grandfather and great grandfather. His engagedness in the cause of religion and the welfare of the church, was indeed extraordinary, and appeared to be the ruling affection of his soul. He was zealously attached to all the ordinances and institutions of religion, and was remarkable for his liberal and benevolent contributions, and for his love and hospitality to the ministers of the gospel. The manner of Dr. Mitchell's death was somewhat singular. He was returning home from professional visits, and within one mile of his dwelling was seen descending a small hill,

and a minute after his horse was seen ascending another with an empty carriage. The spot was immediately visited, and he was found a corpse, but without any visible marks of injury, or of any struggle or convulsion. This happened on the 14th of May, 1824, in the 63d year of his age.

Dr. Mitchell knew too well the connexion of religion with sound learning, to be indifferent to the interests of literature and science. As a guardian and patron of learning, he for several years held a seat in the board of overseers of Bowdoin College. He was one of the Trustees of the Maine Charity School. He was among the most liberal contributors for founding an academy in his native place. There are few situations of importance in which he has not served the town. Before the part he took in its municipal regulations, he was its representative ten years in the legislature of Massachusetts. His knowledge, accuracy and despatch eminently qualified him to preside in public assemblies ; and his townsmen availed themselves of these talents by electing him moderator of all their annual meetings in April and May, excepting one, and of many special meetings, from 1801 to 1823. He presided, also, with great dignity and propriety at the meeting of clergymen and delegates, when the Cumberland Conference of Churches was organized, and the constitution adopted. The poor and necessitous always found in Dr. Mitchell a liberal benefactor. His affectionate attachment and solicitude in conjugal life can scarcely be described. As a parent, he was unceasingly affectionate and faithful to his charge, and, happily for his children, many tokens of his regard survive him. His private correspondence was extensive, and his letters were full of piety and feeling. There are some specimens of his composition before the public, particularly an Eulogy on General Washington, pronounced February 22d, 1800, and "an Address on Sacred Music, delivered before the Beneficent Musical Society in the County of Cumberland," in 1812 ; which display the eloquence of feeling, some beautiful imagery, and the same savor of piety which characterized most that he did.

Happy would it have been were there no blighting traits in the active life of Dr. Mitchell ; but it must be confessed that he was not faultless, there was a want of uniformity and consistency of conduct, which bespeaks the imperfection of human character. Blemishes in those who

have rendered themselves conspicuous, always attract public observation, and their example is more injurious in its effects than that of ordinary persons. From some cause, either an excess of good nature, or too strong a desire to accommodate, he would give a reluctant assent to many solicitations, which he ought to have met by a prompt denial. There was a culpable negligence in the management of his worldly concerns, and a want of punctuality to minor engagements, by which all concerned suffered much perplexity, and which greatly embarrassed his own affairs, and occasioned an incalculable loss of property. A settlement of pecuniary accounts, whether the balance was in his favor or against him, was equally his aversion. These frequent disappointments occasioned irritation to the feelings of those concerned with him, and afforded a pretext for remarks discreditable to his veracity. But we would not too severely censure those foibles in Dr. Mitchell, which had not their origin in unworthy motives or vicious propensities; and which in their aggregate bear no proportion to his numerous excellences. It appears that during the last months of his life he was deeply conscious of the errors upon which we have animadverted, and most feelingly lamented them. That his repentance was genuine is evident, for he had resolved upon reformation, and commenced the work with alacrity.

The principal part of the foregoing sketch was taken from the funeral sermon by Rev. Asa Cummings.

MONRO, GEORGE, M.D. was a native of the state of Delaware. He was born in the town of Newcastle, February 22d, 1760. His father, of the same name, was a native of Scotland, who had emigrated to this country a few years before. His mother was Lydia Hall, of Delaware, a niece of Governor Hall, of that state.

His education in English and in the learned languages was begun at Newcastle, and continued at the academy at Newark, in his native county, a seminary of great excellence and celebrity. He studied medicine with Dr. John Archer, of Hartford county, Maryland, a gentleman of much professional respectability, though of eccentric memory. After completing his studies with Dr. Archer, he attended the regular medical lectures in the University of Pennsylvania, and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from that institution.

Toward the close of the revolutionary war, Dr. Monro served a number of months as surgeon in the army of his country. He was connected with that part of it termed the "Virginia Line;" and during his military career was tent-companion with the venerable General Finley, of Chillicothe, Ohio.

Immediately after the close of the war he went to Europe, to avail himself of the advantages to be enjoyed in the mature medical schools of the old world. After spending about a year in London, attending the lectures and hospitals of that great metropolis, he went, in October, 1784, to Edinburgh, where he remained nearly two years, diligently employed in gaining every species of professional and liberal knowledge, for which the capital of Scotland has been long so eminently distinguished. The well-informed reader does not need to be reminded that the professors who adorned that far-famed medical school at the time of which we speak, were Drs. Cullen, Gregory, Black, Home, Brown and Monro. On the lectures of all these gentlemen he had the privilege of attending; and to any one that knew him it would be unnecessary to add, that he availed himself of the privilege with industry, with intelligence, and with great success.

Before leaving Edinburgh Dr. Monro received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in that University. On this occasion he composed, and, agreeably to the laws of the institution, defended and printed a Latin dissertation on the disease called "Cynanche Trachealis." It is believed that in that dissertation Dr. Monro first recommended calomel as an efficient medicine in this disease; a remedy which has been since extensively, if not universally, adopted. Dr. Cullen, in some of the medical reviews of that day, spoke of this dissertation in terms of the most marked respect, and more particularly of the remedy just mentioned.

Dr. Monro left Edinburgh in the month of July, 1786; and after spending a few months in Paris, he returned to the United States in the autumn of that year. He first established himself on a valuable farm which he possessed near the town of St. George's, in Newcastle county, where for some years he combined the practice of his profession, with the amusement of farming, of which he appears to have been extremely fond.



In 1793 Dr. Monro formed a matrimonial connexion with Miss Jemima Haslet, youngest daughter of Colonel John Haslet, whose patriotism and bravery during the revolutionary war were greatly distinguished, and whose fall, at the battle of Princeton, has been so often commemorated and deplored among the honored martyrs to the cause of freedom in that great national conflict.

In 1797 Dr. Monro removed to Wilmington, in his native state, and established himself in the practice of his profession in that borough. Here, as might have been expected from his talents and advantages, he soon attained a high standing. Both as a physician and surgeon he was eminently popular, skilful and successful. No man in the state, it is believed, had a higher reputation. In this place he spent the remainder of his life, daily growing in public honor, confidence and usefulness.

Up to the time when Dr. Monro settled in Wilmington, he had been an infidel. But about the year 1799 or 1800, his views on this subject underwent an entire change. He publicly renounced his deistical sentiments, professed his cordial belief in the religion of Jesus Christ, and united himself to the Presbyterian church of Wilmington in full communion. Not long afterwards he was elected a ruling elder of the church of which he was a member, and to the end of life discharged and adorned the duties of the office, in the most exemplary and edifying manner.

Dr. Monro published but little. His inaugural dissertation printed at Edinburgh, and a few medical papers published in the Medical Repository at New-York, were all that can now be recollected. They all did him honor, and evinced a sound, cultivated and rich mind.

The character of Dr. Monro was very strongly marked in a variety of respects. He had peculiar sensibility of temperament. In his friendships he was warm, constant and active ; and although naturally irritable, he was, at the same time, easily appeased, and ever ready to do good to those who had offended him. The same warmth was carried into all his social relations. The attachments of few men have been more fervent ; the benevolence of few more unwearied.

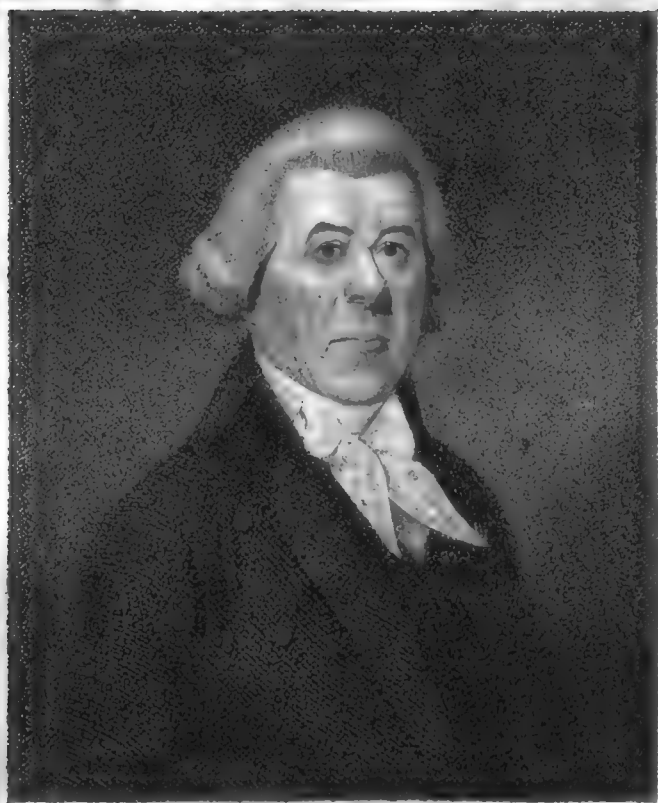
Dr. Monro was also remarkable for his great simplicity. It extended to every thing ; his diet, his dress, his manners, all were as simple as possible. He drank nothing but water ; and appeared reluctant to spend the smallest por-

tion of property to gratify appetite, or the love of show, while he gave liberally and cheerfully to every benevolent object. Indeed so uncommonly large and frequent were his donations to pious and charitable objects, that he was generally supposed by his friends to be in the receipt of a large income; whereas it was barely sufficient, after these charities were deducted, to support his family with the most rigid economy.

Another remarkable trait in his character was perfect punctuality to all his appointments. He always made his arrangements to be on the spot where he had promised to be, a few minutes before the specified time, and would wait but a few minutes afterwards, if others failed to attend. And on the Sabbath, he never failed to have all his regular visits despatched, and to be in his seat in church some minutes before the commencement of public worship.

But by nothing was this excellent man more distinguished than by the uniformity and fervor of his piety. He was not only punctual in his attendance in the house of God, and on every public religious ordinance; but in all of them he manifested a spirit of sincere and elevated devotion truly unusual. He appeared to drink in the truths of the gospel from the preacher's lips with the most marked avidity. Every pious, orthodox sermon, however plain, was to him a feast. Every one was good; but the last always seemed the best. Every thing approaching to levity or unseasonable criticism in speaking of sermons or preachers, appeared to give him pain, and to be an object of his abhorrence. He uniformly carried his religion with him, too, into the chambers of the sick and dying. He never failed to seek the eternal as well as the temporal salvation of his patients. For this purpose he took every opportunity to converse with them on spiritual subjects, to pray with them, and to distribute among them appropriate religious tracts. During the latter years of his life by far the largest portion of his time was spent in devotional exercises. In fact, all his time not necessarily expended on domestic and professional calls, was employed in preparing for eternity. His Bible was always open before him; and he seemed to relish no company, book, or employment, but that which was spiritual and heavenly. He often prayed in social meetings; and the prayers of few men were ever more remarkable for their humility, comprehensiveness, variety, and spirituality.





AMOS MOWBRAY, M.D.

*President of the Medical Society  
of the State of Connecticut*

His last illness was short and only occasionally severe. The disease which terminated his life was an ossification of the heart. For some days before his death he expressed a full expectation of a speedy removal from the world ; still, however, his friends were not alarmed ; and even those members of his family with whom he frequently, and with the most interesting composure conversed on the subject of his anticipated speedy departure, could not admit the idea that his death was near. His anticipations, however, were realized. After a remarkably tender and pious conversation on the subject on Sabbath evening, and retiring to bed without assistance, his family were overwhelmed with grief to find in the morning that his spirit had gently taken its flight. He died on the 11th day of October, 1819, in the 60th year of his age.

MONSON, ÆNEAS, M.D. was born in New-Haven, June 24th, 1734, and was graduated at Yale College in 1753 : after which he entered upon the study of Divinity under the instruction of Dr. Styles, then a tutor at Yale College. At the period of the French war, in 1755, he officiated as chaplain to Lord Gardner, who was stationed on Long-Island ; but finding his health decline in consequence of the exertions necessary in preaching, he commenced the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. John Darly of Easthampton. In 1756 he entered upon his professional course in the town of Bedford, state of New-York, from whence in 1760 he removed to New-Haven, where he obtained a permanent and very respectable establishment.

He was active in forming the Medical Society of Connecticut, was early called to the presidency of that body, and was annually reelected as long as he was willing to serve. He was appointed a professor in the medical institution of Yale College at the time of its organization, and continued in office until his death, although he did not enter upon the discharge of the active duties of the station. This venerable man sustained for more than half a century the highest reputation as a learned, profound, devoted and successful physician. Endowed by his Creator with a powerful and discriminating mind, animated by an ardent love of knowledge, and habituated from early life to observe, reason and investigate, he was, until age and infirmities checked his career, constantly advancing in professional science and usefulness. Although he came



upon the stage before many of the great modern discoveries and improvements had been made, he maintained an extensive acquaintance at home, and a correspondence with eminent men abroad ; he procured and studied the most recent and celebrated works ; obtained specimens of new and important substances ; made many experiments in pharmacy and in the kindred branches of physical science, and allowed no valuable improvement to escape his observation. He first introduced many indigenous articles of the *materia medica* into regular practice, and laid the foundation for the study of that important branch, which has since been so successfully pursued at Yale College. Had he entered on professional life thirty years later, he would probably have been one of the most successful and distinguished cultivators of science, which he always loved for its own sake ; but his great object was practical utility, and he hastened to carry to the bedside of his patients every remedy and every alleviation, the efficacy and safety of which had been fully ascertained.

His devotion to his patients was unwearied, and the spirit which prompted his efforts was highly benevolent. He was the active friend of the poor, the distressed and the forsaken, and his deportment was happily adapted to the varying character and situation of his patients. When immediate danger was not apprehended, and especially where the spirits of the invalid needed the cordial of cheerfulness, no man knew better than he, how to dissipate the gloom which grows out of the habitual contemplation of corporal infirmities. This he effected by kind and encouraging remarks, by sallies of humor and pleasantry, and by the historical, biographical and characteristic anecdotes and recollections, which a life eventually covering nearly one half of the whole existence of English America, and rendered the more interesting by personal acquaintance with many distinguished men of the very momentous epochs in which he lived, had enabled him to collect and preserve in his capacious and retentive memory. But Dr. Monson knew also when to be grave, and no unseasonable sprightliness was permitted to appear when serious danger filled the sick room with anxiety. On such occasions, he was able and willing to proffer the comfort and consolations of religion ; and in that awful hour, when all the aids of science and skill avail no more, he could act the part of a christian friend and instructor, and in solemn

prayer at the bedside of his patient could commend the departing soul to the mercy of God through the Savior of men.

During the war of the revolution he was repeatedly a member of the legislature, and for many years in the commission of the peace. While in public life he actively cooperated with those who now sleep with him in the dust, in securing the rights of the people of his native state. His profession, however, was his theatre of action, and for the long period of seventy years he was here eminently respected. Such was the habitual and even filial confidence, reposed by the community in his superior talents, knowledge, skill and professional zeal, that in the rising and risen generations this feeling had become almost traditionary ; and it was with extreme reluctance that his numerous friends and patients could be induced to relinquish his services, even when old age had rendered this indulgence indispensable. After he became confined for the greater part of the time to his own house, he was still, in difficult cases, the oracle for advice and consultation ; and his capacity and his disposition to be in this manner useful, continued to the last.

Through his long career of almost a century, when he had lived until no one remaining in his native city had survived so long, he found 'religion the staff of his age, as it had been the guide of his youth. His habitual trust in God through Christ, brightened as he advanced into the full glow of assured hope, and, although his last days were distressed by bodily suffering, his sun set with unclouded splendor, the cheering harbinger of a glorious morning. He died June 16th, 1826.

MOORE, WILLIAM, M.D. This ornament of the profession and of christianity, was born at Newton on Long-Island, in 1754. His father Samuel, and his grandfather Benjamin Moore, were agriculturalists. He received the rudiments of a classical education under the tuition of his elder brother, afterwards Bishop Moore, and President for many years of Columbia College. He attended the lectures on medicine delivered by Drs. Clossey and Samuel Bard.

In 1778 he went to London and thence to Edinburgh. In 1780 he was graduated Doctor of Medicine, on which occasion he published his dissertation *De Bile*. For more than forty years he continued unremittingly engaged in

the arduous duties of an extensive practice, particularly in midwifery, estimating his number of cases at about three thousand. He died in the seventy-first year of his age, in April, 1824.

The medical papers of Dr. Moore may be found in the American Medical and Philosophical Register, the New-York Medical Repository, and the New-York Medical and Physical Journal. For many years Dr. Moore was President of the Medical Society of the county of New-York, and an upright and vigilant Trustee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. On his death the college recorded their testimony to his preeminent worth.

With the consent of Dr. Francis, at that time Professor of Obstetrics in the College, I insert a part of his notice of this estimable man as delivered to the class. "Before I conclude, permit me to pay my feeble tribute of homage and respect to the memory of the late Dr. William Moore, recently called from among us by the fiat of Providence; a bright exemplar of the various and important qualifications demanded of the practitioner in that department of the profession, the duties of which I have attempted to exhibit. I am persuaded that I do not allow feelings of personal friendship to prevail over the decisions of the severest scrutiny, when I assert that no member of our profession has exhibited in his life and conduct a more beautiful example of the dignity and benignant lustre of the medical character. Honored for many years with his friendship, and admitted to the privilege of his conversation, I was early taught to look upon Dr. Moore with a respect and veneration, which all my subsequent acquaintance with him served only to strengthen and confirm. Thousands among us can testify to the mildness and urbanity of his manners; to his tender and watchful regard to the suffering patient and sympathizing attendants; to his warm hearted benevolence of feeling, and devotedness to the good of all whom his eminent attainments or the lesson of a pure and unspotted life could profit; to his strictness of moral principle, and uniform devotion to the sacred obligations of religion. It was but a few months ago, that the governors of this institution were honored with his cooperation and enlightened by his counsels. How great their loss has been can be known to those only who were acquainted with the liberality of his views, and his freedom from every mean and selfish bias.



Dr. Moore rose to his great eminence by the force of personal and professional merit. A liberal education had prepared him to commence with advantage his medical pursuits, and amid the toil and cares of his laborious career he ever continued to recur with ardor and delight to those classical studies in which he had been imbued in his youth. Seldom, indeed, has it happened that the two professions were adorned with such attainments and such private excellence, as were exhibited in the instances of Dr. William Moore, and his brother the late pious and venerable bishop of the church. While we cherish their worth, let the regret at our bereavement give place to a noble emulation of their pure virtue and active benevolence."

MORGAN, JOHN, M.D. F.R.S. was born in the city of Philadelphia. He discovered in early life a strong propensity for learning, and an uncommon application to books. He acquired the rudiments of his classical learning at the Rev. Dr. Finley's Academy in Nottingham, and finished his studies in the College of Philadelphia under the present provost and the late Rev. Dr. Allison. In both of these seminaries he acquired the esteem and affection of his preceptors, by his singular diligence and proficiency in his studies. In the year 1757 he was admitted to the first literary honors that were conferred by the College of Philadelphia. During the last years of his attendance upon the college he began the study of physic under the direction of Dr. John Redman of Philadelphia. His conduct as an apprentice was such as gained him the esteem and confidence of his master, and the affections of all his patients.

After he had finished his studies under Dr. Redman, he entered into the service of his country, as a surgeon and lieutenant in the provincial troops of Pennsylvania, in the last war which Britain and America carried on against the French nation. As a surgeon, in which capacity only he acted in the army, he acquired both knowledge and reputation. He was respected by the officers, and beloved by the soldiers of the army; and so great were his diligence and humanity in attending the sick and wounded, who were the subjects of his care, that I well remember, says Dr. Rush his biographer, to have heard it said, "that if it were possible for any man to merit Heaven by his good works, Dr. Morgan would deserve it for his faithful attendance upon his patients."

In the year 1760 he left the army, and sailed for Europe with a view of prosecuting his studies in medicine. He attended the lectures and dissections of the late celebrated Dr. William Hunter, and afterwards spent two years in attending the lectures of the professors in Edinburgh. Here both of the Monros, Cullen, Rutherford, Whytt and Hope, were his masters, with each of whom he lived in the most familiar intercourse, and all of whom spoke of him with affection and respect. At the end of two years he published an elaborate Thesis upon the Formation of Pus, and after publicly defending it, was admitted to the honor of Doctor of Medicine in the University. From Edinburgh he went to Paris, where he spent a winter in attending the anatomical lectures and dissections of Mr. Sue. In this city he injected a kidney in so curious and elegant a manner, that it procured his admission into the Academy of Surgery in Paris. While on the continent of Europe he visited Holland and Italy. In both these countries he was introduced to the first medical and literary characters. He spent several hours in company with Voltaire at Geneva, and had the honor of a long conference with the celebrated Morgagni at Padua, when he was in the eightieth year of his age. This venerable physician, who was the light and ornament of two or three successive generations of physicians, was so pleased with the doctor, that he claimed kindred with him from the resemblance of their names, and on the blank leaf of a copy of his works, which he presented to him, he inscribed with his own hand the following words : “ *Affini suo, medico præclarissimo, Johanni Morgan, donat auctor.*” Upon the doctor’s return to London he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. He was likewise admitted as a licentiate of the College of Physicians in London, and a member of the College of Physicians in Edinburgh.

It was during his absence from home that he concerted with Dr. Shippen the plan of establishing a medical school in the city of Philadelphia. He returned in the year 1765 loaded with literary honors, and was received with open arms by his fellow citizens. They felt an interest in him for having advanced in every part of Europe the honor of the American name. Immediately after his arrival he was elected Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, and delivered soon afterwards at a public commencement, his plan for connecting a medical school

with the College of Philadelphia. This discourse was composed with taste and judgment, and contained many of the true principles of liberal medical science. In the year 1769 he had the pleasure of seeing the first fruits of his labors for the advancement of medicine. Five young gentlemen received in that year from the hands of the present provost the first honors in medicine that ever were conferred in America. The historian who shall hereafter relate the progress of medical science in America, will be deficient in candor and justice, if he does not connect the name of Dr. Morgan with that auspicious era, in which medicine was first taught and studied as a science in this country.

But the zeal of Dr. Morgan was not confined to the advancement of medical science alone. He had an active hand in the establishment of the American Philosophical Society, and he undertook in the year 1773 a voyage to Jamaica, on purpose to solicit benefactions for the advancement of general literature in the college. He possessed an uncommon capacity for acquiring knowledge. His memory was extensive and accurate ; he was intimately acquainted with the Latin and Greek classics ; had read much in medicine, and in all his pursuits he was persevering and indefatigable. He was capable of friendship, and in his intercourse with his patients discovered the most amiable and exemplary tenderness. I never knew a person who had been attended by him, that did not speak of his sympathy and attention with gratitude and respect. Such was the man who once filled the chair of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in our College. He is now no more. His remains now sleep in the silent grave ; but not so his virtuous actions. Every act of benevolence which he performed, every public spirited enterprise which he planned or executed, and every tear of sympathy which he shed, are faithfully recorded, and shall be preserved for ever.—*Rush's Account of Dr. Morgan.*

In October, 1775, Dr. Morgan was appointed by congress Director General and Physician in Chief to the General Hospital of the American army. He immediately repaired to Cambridge, where by direction of Washington he commenced a new arrangement of the hospital department, and instituted examinations of the surgeons and mates of the hospital and army. The compiler of this work passed a strict examination by him. From Cam-

bridge he removed to New-York with the army. The duties of his office were extremely laborious and embarrassing. He attempted to establish a systematic method of conducting the medical department, and labored with indefatigable industry to effect the object ; but his utmost exertions proved ineffectual ; the sick and wounded suffered for want of medicine and stores which it was impossible for him to provide ; unjust clamors were raised against him, and in 1777 congress removed him from office without an opportunity to vindicate himself. After his removal a committee of congress, appointed by his request, investigated his whole conduct, which resulted in an honorable acquittal of all the charges exhibited against him. He died at Philadelphia, October 15th, 1789, in the 54th year of his age.

Dr. Morgan was elected an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He published " *Tentamen Medicum de Puris Confectione,*"\* Edinburgh, 1763 ; " *A Discourse upon the Institution of Medical Schools in America,*" 1765 ; " *A Recommendation of Inoculation according to Baron Dimsdale's Method,*" 1776. In the year 1766 John Sergeant, Esq. a merchant of London and a member of parliament, presented to the College of Philadelphia a fund for a prize of a gold medal for the best essay on the reciprocal advantages of a perpetual union between Great Britain and her American colonies. For this prize there were nine competitors. Dr. Morgan produced four dissertations on the subject and was the successful candidate for the gold medal. In 1777 he published a vindication of his public character in the station of Director General of the military hospitals.

MOSELEY, ABNER, M.D., was born in the town of Glastenbury, Connecticut, in the year 1765. His parents were respectable, especially his mother who was distinguished for strength of mind and energy of character. He received a good early education, took his first degree at Yale College in 1786, and studied his profession under his venerable uncle, the highly respected Dr. Thomas Moseley, of East Haddam, who was afterwards President of the Connecticut Medical Society. The subject of this notice, after spending some time with his instructor, attend-

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\* Dr. Morgan is said to be the first who proposed the theory of the formation of pus by the secretory action of the vessels of the part.

ed one of the early courses of lectures in Philadelphia, under Rush, Shippen, Morgan, &c.

After completing his education he settled in his native town, from which he removed to Weathersfield in 1795. Here he soon found himself established in an extensive and profitable course of practice, which he continued with increasing reputation till his death, which occurred in September, 1811, in the 46th year of his age. Dr. Moseley's education gave him advantages over most of his contemporaries as a physician, and particularly as an accoucheur, in which department of his profession his reputation was deservedly great and extensive. As a man and a member of society he was useful, active and public spirited, and greatly respected. As a husband and father he was kind and affectionate, assiduous in his attentions, and much devoted to his family. In his person he was tall, strait, of a commanding figure and noble countenance; he possessed great bodily strength and activity.

In Dr. Moseley the sick ever found a real friend; his kindness, his assiduity, his frankness, his sympathy, and his efforts to relieve their distress and increase their comforts, secured the affection of his employers, and each individual considered him as his personal friend. He married Miss Wells of Glastenbury, by whom he had a numerous family. She died a few months before him. At his death the whole town in which he lived was in mourning, and manifested a scene of gloom and sorrow. Such an expression of public opinion is the best eulogy a man can possess, and speaks a language of applause more to be desired than any other tribute however splendid or magnificent.

MOULTRIE, JOHN, M.D., was a native of Europe, and came to this country in 1733. He established himself in Charleston, South Carolina, and for forty years stood at the head of his profession in that city. He possessed great talents for observation, and was wonderfully successful in discovering the hidden causes of diseases and adopting remedies for their removal.

His death was regretted as a great public calamity. Several of the ladies of Charleston bedewed his grave with tears, and went into mourning on the occasion. The year after his decease was distinguished by the deaths of several women in childbirth. While he lived, they thought themselves secure of the best assistance in the power of man or

of art, in case of extremity. In losing him, they lost their hopes. Depressing fears sunk their spirits, and in an unusual number of cases produced fatal consequences. He died about the year 1773. He was the idol of his patients. They who had him once, could not be satisfied, in case of need, without having him again. So great was the confidence reposed in his judgment, that they who were usually attended by him, preferred his advice and assistance, even on the festive evening of St. Andrew's day, to that of any other professional man in his most collected moments.

Dr. Moultrie left a son, John, who was eminent in literature and medical science; he was the first Carolinian who obtained a medical degree from the University of Edinburgh, where in 1749 he defended a thesis "*De Febre Flava*." He was afterwards lieutenant governor of East Florida.

OGDEN, DR. JACOB, was the descendant of an English family, and was born at Newark, New-Jersey, in the year 1721. He received the elements of a good classical education in Yale College; and after having prosecuted his medical studies under such circumstances as the colonies then afforded, entered upon the practice of medicine at Jamaica, on Long Island. He soon obtained a large share of public patronage, and was distinguished as an excellent practitioner for nearly forty years. The sphere of his professional employment was not limited to his place of residence, but embraced a large district of the country; he enjoyed the confidence of many of the eminent men of his day, particularly of Dr. Colden, and Dr. John Bard, of the city of New-York. He was an able supporter of the practice of inoculation for the smallpox, and made free use of mercury as a precautionary means in the management of that disease, according to the popular theory of the time. He placed much reliance upon the free use of the same medicine in the treatment of pneumonic affections. A manuscript account by him, detailing his opinions of hydrophobia, is said to be in existence: he maintained the utility of mercury in this disorder.

But Dr. Ogden is best known by his letters addressed to Mr. Hugh Gainé, on the "*Malignant Sore Throat Dis-temper*," which is the only printed production of his pen, so far as can be ascertained. These letters were reprinted several years after their first appearance, in the *New-York Medical Repository*, Volume V. The date of them is

Jamaica, October 28th, 1769, and September 14th, 1774. In these letters he has been sufficiently careful to confine himself more especially to a consideration of the sore throat distemper, without involving the disorder with croup or cynanche trachealis, a circumstance which has unfortunately taken place with some later and more eminent authors. It is contested whether the honor belongs exclusively to him of having first introduced the mercurial practice in the treatment of inflammatory disorders in the United States. The venerable Dr. Holyoke of Salem, Massachusetts, informs us that so early as in the years 1751 or 1752 he was in the habit of prescribing this mineral. "About that time, says he, pleurisies and peripneumonies were remarkably prevalent and might be called epidemical." About twenty years before the date of Dr. Ogden's first letter, he assures us, he administered the "mercurius dulcis" freely in the sore throat disease both in children and in adults. It would further appear that the eccentric Dr. Douglass of Boston had recourse to mercurials in the sore throat distemper of 1736. Perhaps it is most safe to divide the merit of this bold and adventurous innovation in practice between Drs. Douglass and Ogden. The authority of the latter, however, had great weight in extending the mercurial treatment in the sore throat affection, and in other diseases of an acute nature.

"While other physicians, says Dr. Francis, were timidly and capriciously prescribing small doses of mercury, in combination with other articles, for the cure of the malignant sore throat distemper, Dr. Ogden of Long Island with higher and more correct pathological views, introduced mercurial remedies in this disorder, with a confidence which his success amply warranted. The honor therefore must justly be conceded to him of having been the first who in the United States availed himself of the free use of mercurials in the treatment of inflammatory diseases. His letters on this occasion prove him to have been a bold and vigorous practitioner, and deserve to be referred to as creditable evidence of his attainments in medical literature." After an active and useful life Dr. Ogden suffered an accident by the fright of his horse which induced a fatal illness. He died in the 59th year of his age.

ORNE, JOSEPH, M.M.S.S. was a native of Salem, born in 1749. In his childhood he was remarkable for the

precocity of his understanding ; at the age of twelve years he entered Harvard College, and received his first degree in 1765. He then began his medical studies under the direction of Dr. Edward A. Holyoke of Salem. In 1770 he removed to Beverly, and established himself in medical practice with a fair reputation and increasing fame. In 1777 he returned to Salem under auspicious circumstances, where he continued in his professional pursuits until his death.

Application being made to the venerable Dr. Holyoke for information relative to Dr. Orne, he, now in the 99th year of his age, replied with his own pen as follows : " In answer to your's respecting the character of the late Dr. Orne as a physician. He lived with me upwards of four years, and appeared to me well informed in the line of his profession, to which he was diligently attentive. He resided, after leaving me, several years in Beverly, where, I believe, he was esteemed as a successful practitioner. Upon his return to Salem, though I had not many opportunities of seeing his practice, I know he was in good repute in those families in which he was employed : but I cannot say that I ever heard that he was noted as a bold practitioner ; if I did it has slipped my memory. If his life had been protracted, I have no doubt but he would have been eminent. That he had genius, wit and learning is certain ; he was, in my opinion, one of the best poets our country has produced ; though I believe he never gave any thing to the public."

As a practising physician Dr. Orne is recollected as possessing a sound and discriminating judgment, and was often consulted by his brethren in difficult cases. His sagacity and medical knowledge were happily manifested in a case which he pronounced *Hydrocephalus internus* at a time when that malady had not been discriminated by other physicians, and on examination after death his prognostic was found to prove the correctness of his judgment. His ardor for the improvement of medicine and in enriching his own mind with scientific knowledge was evinced by his exertions in importing from Europe the most recent valuable publications, and dedicating all his leisure to the investigation of new subjects. That he was not inattentive to the medical remedies of our own soil appears by an ingenious communication to the Massachusetts Medical Society. His object was to bring into notice a new article,



the *Heracleum Lanatum*, Cowparsnip, as a remedy in epilepsy. He gave an accurate botanical description of the plant, and detailed five cases in which he had employed it, in three of which radical cures were effected.

Dr. Orne possessed not only a taste for poetry, painting and the belles lettres, but also for natural philosophy ; and had his short sojourn in life been protracted, his talents would probably have been devoted to the most useful purposes. But insatiate consumption seized him as its victim, and terminated his earthly career, January 28th, 1786, in the 37th year of his age. That the public voice duly appreciated his talents and acquirements, will appear from the circumstance, that his name is found among the first associates in the charter of the Academy of Arts and Sciences of this state, and that of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and he was also a member of the Philosophical Library Company in Salem.

OSBORN, JOHN, M.M.S.S. Hon. was born at Sandwich, Massachusetts, in 1713, and was graduated at Harvard College in 1737, where he displayed great talents for mathematical investigations. After leaving college he repaired to his father's house at Eastham, and spent some time in a state of irresolution. To while away this interval, and to gratify the wishes of his father, he paid some attention to divinity. At an association of the neighboring clergy in Chatham, he delivered a sermon of his own composition. The ingenuity of this discourse, though not perfectly orthodox, commanded the approbation of his reverend hearers.

He next turned his attention to medicine, and being duly qualified settled as a physician at Middletown, Connecticut. He married about this time ; and in 1753 wrote to a sister, then living at Plymouth, the following account of himself and family. "We are all in usual plight except myself. I am confined chiefly to the house ; am weak, lame and uneasy ; and never expect to be hearty and strong again. I have lingered along almost two years a life not worth having, and how much longer it will last I cannot tell. We have six children, the oldest fourteen years old the last November, the youngest two years last January ; the eldest a daughter, the next a son, and so on to the end of the chapter." The illness he mentions was the effect of a fever from which he never recovered. The life, which he thought "not worth having," lasted but a short

time after he wrote the abovementioned letter. He died May 31st, 1753, at the age of 40.

He was a very respectable physician, but was more celebrated as a scholar and a poet than most of the literary men of his day. When at college he was distinguished for his Latin verses, and one of the professors pronounced his hexameters truly Virgilian. His Whaling Song has continued to be celebrated to this time, and no whaleman ever sings or speaks of it but with rapture. He also wrote a very beautiful elegiac epistle addressed to one sister on the death of another. Dr. Osborn's Whaling Song deserves to be preserved, and is given below.

#### WHALING SONG.

WHEN spring returns with western gales,      One day and night fills up the year,  
     And gentle breezes sweep      And endless cold maintains.

The ruffling seas, we spread our sails  
     To plough the watery deep.

For killing northern whales prepar'd,  
     Our nimble boats on board,  
 With craft and rum (our chief regard)  
     And good provision stor'd.

Cape Cod, our dearest, native land  
     We leave astern, and lose  
 Its sinking cliffs and lessening sands,  
     While zephyr gently blows.

Bold, hardy men, with blooming age,  
     Our sandy shores produce ;  
 With monstrous fish they dare engage,  
     And dangerous callings choose.

Now towards the early dawning east  
     We speed our course away,  
 With eager minds, and joyful hearts,  
     To meet the rising day.

Then as we turn our wondering eyes,  
     We view one constant show ;  
 Above, around, the circling skies ;  
     The rolling seas below.

When eastward, clear of Newfoundland,  
     We stem the frozen pole,  
 We see the icy islands stand,  
     The northern billows roll.

As to the north we make our way,  
     Surprising scenes we find ;  
 We lengthen out the tedious day,  
     And leave the night behind.

Now see the northern regions, where  
     Eternal winter reigns ;

One day and night fills up the year,  
     And endless cold maintains.

We view the monsters of the deep,  
     Great whales in numerous swarms ;  
 And creatures there, that play and leap,  
     Of strange unusual forms.

When we our wonted station gain  
     And whales around us play ;  
 We launch our boats into the main,  
     And swiftly chase our prey.

In haste we ply our nimble oars,  
     For an assault designed :  
 The sea beneath us foams and roars,  
     And leaves a wake behind.

A mighty whale we rush upon,  
     And in our irons throw :  
 She darts her monstrous body down  
     Among the waves below.

And when she rises out again,  
     We soon renew the fight ;  
 Thrust our sharp lances in amain,  
     And all her rage excite.

Enrag'd she makes a mighty bound :  
     Thick foams the whiten'd sea :  
 The waves in circles rise around,  
     And widening roll away.

She thrashes with her tail around,  
     And blows her reddening breath ;  
 She breaks the air, a deafening sound,  
     While ocean groans beneath.

From num'rous wounds, with crimson flood  
     She stains the frothy seas,  
 And gasps and blows her latest blood,  
     While quivering life decays.

With joyful hearts we see her die,  
And on the surface lay ;  
While all with eager haste apply,  
To save our breathless prey.

When in the hold we her secure,  
And place our bone and oil,  
In cans of punch, our sovereign cure,  
We drown all care and toil.

OSBORN, DR. JOHN, son of the preceding, was born March 17th, 1741, and died in the summer of 1825. He studied his profession at Hartford under Dr. Morrison, an able physician from Scotland, and practised physic at Middletown, Connecticut, his native place, more than sixty years. During the campaign of 1758, though very young, he was with the army that attacked Ticonderoga, and in a subordinate capacity, was in the medical department of the provincial troops. He was a man of very extensive reading, and for many years possessed the best private medical library in the state. His knowledge of the materia medica was very accurate and extensive, and previous to the return of Professor Silliman from Europe he was unquestionably the first chemist in Connecticut. He early exerted himself to remove the prejudices against inoculation, and was the first in Connecticut who introduced the antiphlogistic regimen in the smallpox. Previous to the revolutionary war, he published La Condamine's Treatise upon that disease with an Appendix of his own, and distributed the work gratis. It is principally owing to his exertions that inoculation under certain limitations was introduced into Connecticut. He was one of the founders of the Medical Society of that state.

OSBORN, JOHN C., M.D. the eldest son of the preceding, was born at Middletown, Connecticut, September, 1766. He received his classical education at Middletown under the Rev. Enoch Huntington, an eminent scholar ; and his medical education exclusively under his father. He was not distinguished by any academic honor till he became eminent in his profession in North Carolina, to which state he removed in 1787. Here he was well known as a successful practitioner, and was repeatedly placed at the head of the Medical Society of the district. He came to the city of New-York in 1807, and was shortly after introduced to a large scene of practice. He was created Professor of the Institutes of Medicine, in the Medical Faculty of Columbia College, and upon the union of that Faculty with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, he was appointed Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children. He died of a pulmo-

nary disorder in the island of St. Croix, upon the day of his landing, March 5th, 1819.

With his professional erudition Dr. Osborn united great literary acquirements, and his knowledge of books was varied and extensive. These acquisitions he often displayed in his courses of public instruction. His view of the *materia medica* as a science was equalled by few, and his knowledge of the actual medical qualities of the native productions of our soil was a subject which he delighted to investigate, and in his practice and by his instructions he earnestly enjoined an acquaintance with these important remedial agents.

Dr. Osborn was a man of much more science and eminence in his profession than either his father or grandfather, and possessed a very fine taste for poetry, belles lettres and painting. While he was quite a young man Mr. Barlow submitted to him and his friend, the late Richard Alsop, Esq. the manuscript of the *Vision of Columbus* for their correction and revision, previous to its publication. His taste in painting was highly cultivated, and he might have attained to great eminence as an artist.

PEABODY, DR. NATHANIEL, was born at Topsfield in the county of Essex, Massachusetts, March 1st, 1741. His father Jacob Peabody, who was an eminent physician and a man of literature and science, removed in April, 1745, from Topsfield to Leominster in the county of Worcester, and resided there till his death in 1758. His mother was Susanna, daughter of the Rev. John Rogers who was for fifty years minister of Boxford Massachusetts. She was of the tenth generation in the direct line of descent from John Rogers, the martyr burned at Smithfield, and she possessed a strong and cultivated mind. Nathaniel, the subject of this notice, derived his early education entirely from his father, never having attended school a day in his life. He also studied and practised physic with him from twelve till eighteen years of age, when his father died.

At about the age of twenty he settled in the town of Plaistow, New-Hampshire, and soon acquired extensive practice. Early in life Dr. Peabody was a favorite with the government of the Province, and held several offices under it. In 1771, when only thirty years old, he was commissioned by Governor Wentworth as justice of

the peace and of the quorum was then and for many years afterwards much more responsible and important than at the present day.

In 1774 Dr. Peabody was appointed lieutenant colonel in the militia. At this time the controversy between the colonies and the parent country had approached its crisis ; the revolution was rapidly dawning, and the battle of Lexington was fought in the succeeding April. Dr. P. espoused with ardor the cause of his country, and was the first man in New-Hampshire who resigned a king's commission on account of political opinions. In December of this year he with a few others boldly assaulted Fort William and Mary at Newcastle, confined the captain of the fort and his five men, and carried off one hundred barrels of powder. This important enterprise was accomplished at the most fortunate point of time, just before the arrival of several companies of the king's troops, who took possession of the fort.

During the first three or four years of the revolutionary war, Dr. P. was constantly employed in various stations in the legislature, in committees and in conventions ; in all which he appears to have been conspicuous as a leading character in the affairs which so greatly agitated the public mind. His shrewdness, vigilance and activity qualified him in a peculiar manner for his station ; and it is said he was eminently successful in detecting and exposing the treasonable practices of the tories. He was for some time chairman of the committee of safety, and other committees, to whom were referred subjects of the greatest importance to the liberty and welfare of the state. The committee of safety in those days was vested with the highest trust in the gift of the General Court, and was composed of men of tried patriotism and integrity. They were considered as the Supreme Executive, and during the recess of the convention their orders and recommendations had the same effect as the acts and resolves of that whole body.

In 1778 he was appointed Adjutant General of the Militia of the state with the rank of colonel, and in the following year served in that capacity with our troops at Rhode-Island under General Whipple. In the same year, in the month of January, commissioners from all the New-England states, together with Pennsylvania, Delaware, New-York and New-Jersey, convened at New-Haven by the recommendation of Congress, for the purpose of regulating

and ascertaining the price of labor, manufactures, internal produce and commodities, and for other purposes. In this convention Colonel P. was one of the delegates from New-Hampshire. In March, 1779, he was elected a delegate to the Continental congress. He took his seat in that body in June, and immediately became an active and useful member. In September following he was added to the medical committee, and soon after was made its chairman. The functions of this committee were highly important and arduous, the whole management of the hospital and medical department of the army having devolved upon it. At the commencement of the year 1780, the country was apparently on the brink of ruin. The public Treasury was empty ; the paper currency had almost entirely lost its value ; the public faith had failed ; the army greatly reduced in numbers, destitute of pay, clothing, and sometimes of food, was on the point of mutiny ; and peculation and disorder had crept into the public offices. In this state of affairs congress resolved to appoint a committee to proceed to Head Quarters, to consult with the Commander in Chief and the Commissary and Quarter Master General about the defects of the present system ; to carry into execution any plan for conducting the Quarter Master's and Commissariat departments ; to consolidate regiments, abolish unnecessary posts, erect others, discharge unnecessary officers, retrench expenses, and generally to exercise every power requisite to effect a reformation of abuses and to correct the general arrangements of the departments in any way connected with the matters committed to them. Of this committee General P. was an active and very useful member, and his conduct was approved and applauded by many of the most illustrious patriots of that time.

In 1780, having been afflicted with ill health, he expressed a desire to be relieved from his laborious services in Congress, and in the latter part of that year his place was supplied by Woodbury Langdon, Esq. and he returned to New-Hampshire. But we still find him actively engaged for the public interest, sustaining various offices under the government of his own state, as representative in the legislature for several successive years, Counsellor, Senator, Brigadier General of the light horse, chairman of various committees, &c. &c. In 1793 he was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Major General of Militia,

which offices he resigned in 1798, and soon after announced in the public papers that he should in future decline all public trusts. This, however, was at a period of party asperity, when from his rigid republican principles his popularity was much on the decline. It would, however, appear unjust not to confess, that in the numerous public stations which he sustained during our revolutionary struggle, General P. never failed to manifest unimpeachable patriotism and indefatigable perseverance. On occasions of the greatest trials, when our public affairs were almost in a state of desperation, he displayed a firmness of mind, a soundness of judgment, and efficiency of conduct, calculated to dissipate the darkest clouds, and encourage new hopes and more vigorous exertions. By his enterprising and active public services he gained the confidence and entire approbation of the Commander in Chief.

General P. was one of the chief founders of the New Hampshire Medical Society, which was incorporated by the legislature of that state in 1790. In the following year he received from Dartmouth College the honorary degree of Master of Arts. The state of his property and finances became greatly deranged and embarrassed, which he attributed chiefly to great losses by means of suretyship, and the plunder and sale of his property through the negligence, misconduct and turpitude of his agents and supposed friends. These misfortunes resulted in his confinement for debt to the limits of the prison at Exeter for several of the last years of his life.

General Peabody, says his biographer, was not without foibles and faults. He was always rather vain and opinionative. At middle age he was almost passionately fond of dress and ostentatious parade, and expended large sums for such purposes. He was a fine horseman, and in his golden days usually travelled with the most elegant horses, of which he was a good judge and great admirer, attended by his servant ; and the people regarded him as a personage of high rank and consequence. But as imperfection is the lot of humanity, let his errors and faults rest in oblivion ; let him receive the general amnesty which the living, conscious of their own frailties, do in charity freely grant to the dead. His natural abilities, though by some called " airy and lofty," were of a high order, and, had he not devoted them so early to his country, might have raised him to a proud eminence in his profession. His



perceptions were quick, his invention powerful, his reasoning tolerably prompt, just and perspicuous, and his memory remarkably tenacious ; but he was most distinguished for his caustic wit and resistless ridicule. These powers made him more formidable as an opponent, than desirable as an ally, and it is said of him by his contemporaries in the legislature, that though not always successful in carrying his own measures, he seldom failed in an attempt to defeat the projects of others. At the time when he was Speaker of the House, his influence was so great that by means of three or four of his associates he ruled the state ; and letters from some of the first men who flourished at that period, show the high value which was placed on his friendship. His disposition was rather hasty, yet he could bend his will to his purposes, and regulate his passions to his views. His stock of general knowledge was respectable. Of national politics his views were liberal, accurate and often original. From his knowledge of human nature and the selfish policy of nations, he foresaw approaching danger and raised his warning voice. His leaning was always decidedly in favor of popular rights. In his politics he was a democratic republican, and he firmly adhered to that party.

In early life Dr. Peabody was a good physician, and practised with success and general applause. He continued to administer to the health of others, till he could no longer help himself. Patients came to him from distant parts, and he cured or alleviated many difficult chronic cases which were beyond the skill of his younger contemporaries. His manner, as well as his application, was always pleasing, and his wit and humor made him popular. In his habits he was regular and correct ; he ate and drank but little, and that of the best ; seldom slept more than four or five hours, often not over two, and those the latter part of the night. He was considered by his friends as a cheerful, sociable, witty and friendly man ; generous, noble spirited and honorable, never deserting his friends in the hour of need. He was also a patron of enterprise and merit, and several young men were indebted to him for liberal education, and their subsequent prosperity. A mind like his was calculated for great changes in popularity and fortune. These changes in early life served to steel his mind against vicissitudes, and made him a more able general in avoiding or recovering from them. They did



not, however, sour his temper, and cloud his intellect. He endeavored to enjoy life himself, and by his pleasantry make his friends happy.

His mental powers were but little impaired by age. The anguish of sickness and disease he bore with fortitude, and was rarely heard to complain, till attacked with that complication of most excruciating disorders, which, after two or three weeks, terminated his earthly career on Saturday, June 27th, 1823. The able writer from whom this sketch is an abstract, makes no mention of Dr. Peabody's belief in the sacred truths of revealed religion, but there appears too much reason to suppose that he was a favorer of infidelity. He was in the latter part of his life subjected to the annoyance of prejudice and enmities, and by many of the virtuous viewed in the light of a degraded character, But observes his biographer in conclusion, "On a candid review of all the transactions and peculiar circumstances of General Peabody's long life, from his cradle to his grave, we are impelled to the conclusion, that he was a useful citizen, an enlightened politician, and in times of trial and danger, as well as in the halcyon days of peace and prosperity, a firm and ardent friend to his country.—*New-Hampshire Historical Collections*.

PERKINS, DR. JOSEPH, was graduated at Yale College in 1727; commenced practice in Norwich, his native town, and became very eminent in both medicine and surgery, performing all the capital operations in that part of the colony. He possessed brilliant talents, and was distinguished for scientific pursuits, and for undissembled piety, patriotism and benevolence. He continued to practise extensively till near the close of life, and died in 1794, aged 90 years.

The following authenticated case is noticed by his biographer as being deemed at the time extraordinary in its nature, and peculiar in its circumstances. In 1761 Abiel Stark, of Lebanon, was afflicted with umbilical hernia, from which he suffered extremely, and incarceration had actually taken place before Dr. Perkins could visit him. Immediate recourse to the operation for strangulated hernia was deemed indispensable; on exposing the intestine it was found sphacelated, and the case apparently hopeless. Under this impression Dr. P. resolved on the expedient of attempting to effect an artificial intussusception. This he accomplished by introducing the diseased

part of the intestine into the sound, and finished the operation in the usual way. About the seventh day after the operation the patient evacuated the diseased part of the intestine, measuring eight inches, having small pieces of the mesentery attached to it perfectly sound. Mr. Stark enjoyed tolerable health for nine years after the operation, and died of a palsy. Drs. Clarke and Metcalf, respectable physicians of Lebanon, assisted in examining the body, and found the intestine at its union had formed a stricture a little larger than a goose quill.

PERKINS, DR. ELISHA, son of the preceding, was born at Norwich, state of Connecticut, in January, 1740, and was educated for the profession by his father. He possessed by nature uncommon endowments, both bodily and mental. In his person he was six feet high and of remarkable symmetry.

His ability to perform active professional business was extraordinary ; he frequently rode sixty miles a day, and generally on horseback, and this without the aid of artificial stimulants, never making use of ardent spirits. He had contracted a habit altogether peculiar to himself. When making his professional visits and inclined to sleep, he would hand his watch to a person and throwing himself on a bed or couch, give orders to be waked in five minutes precisely ; if suffered to sleep six minutes, he would know by his feelings that the time had been exceeded, and whenever the time of sleep exceeded by one minute his rule, he invariably would say that he felt the worse for it. By this practice he was enabled to perform his duties with three or four hours sleep in the night for many weeks in succession, though subjected to great fatigue.

Having descended from respectable ancestry, who long possessed a distinguished influence in the medical profession in that vicinity, he attained a considerable reputation and popularity. His acquaintance was very extensive, and his great liberality and social habits allured to his house gentlemen from different parts of the country, and his inquiring mind seemed ever to search for something new in every sphere which could better the condition of the human family. He had a happy facility in communicating his views, and turning to some valuable purpose such information as he could derive from others. He made great sacrifices in establishing and supporting an academy in Plainfield, and other useful improvements in

that town. He was esteemed as a man of strict honor and integrity of character.

Dr. Perkins entered with peculiar zeal into a new project for the cure of diseases, which gained no inconsiderable celebrity at the time of its promulgation in 1796. Conceiving an idea that metallic substances might have an influence on the nerves and muscles of animals, and be capable of being converted to useful purposes as external agents in medicine, he was induced to institute numerous experiments with various kinds of metals, till at length, after several years pursuit of the object, he discovered a composition which would serve his purpose, and from which he formed his Metallic Tractors. These consisted of two instruments, one having the appearance of steel, the other of brass. They were about three inches in length, and pointed at one end; and the manner in which they were applied was, by drawing the points over the affected parts in a downward direction for about twenty minutes each time. The complaints in which this operation has been found most useful, according to Dr. Perkins, are local inflammations in general, pains in the head, face, teeth, breast, side, stomach, back, rheumatism, &c. Dr. P. obtained a patent for his discovery, and traveled through the country to disseminate his new practice, and his career was attended with great success. Numerous cures were effected by the employment of the Tractors in his hands and in those of others. His enthusiasm pervaded all ranks, and received the countenance of many enlightened physicians and philosophers. Pamphlets were published to explain the *modus operandi* of the new remedy, and the Professors of three universities in America gave attestations in favor of its efficacy. The operation was alleged to be similar in its principles to Animal Magnetism, or, according to some, animal electricity or Galvanism.

The fame of the Metallic Tractors soon reached Europe. They were introduced at Copenhagen in 1798, where twelve physicians and surgeons, chiefly professors and lecturers in the Royal Frederick's Hospital, commenced a course of experiments, and reported the result to Professors Herholdt and Rafn. The experiments, fifty in number, were deemed sufficiently important to demand publication in an octavo volume. The professors introduced the term *Perkinism* in honor of the discoverer, and assert-

ed that it was of great importance to the physician. "We do not find it possible," say the professors, "to apply with any justice against Perkinism, the arguments and doubts which have been raised against animal magnetism. Our experiments have demonstrated to our satisfaction that there is a great deal of reality at bottom." This book was translated into German by Professor Tode, Physician to the King of Denmark, and thence into English by C. Kampfmüller. After the death of Dr. P. Mr. Benjamin D. Perkins, his son, repaired to London, and securing a patent immediately published a tract on the discovery. Soon after this, Dr. Langworthy of Bath, having recently returned from America, commenced a course of experiments at Bath and Bristol hot wells, with a view of ascertaining the merits of the Tractors. The result was published in a pamphlet, containing a collection of cases, highly creditable, as he judged, to the metallic practice, with ingenious observations on the theory of their operation.

In 1804 the Perkeinean Institution, as it was called, was established in London, chiefly with the view of benefiting the poor by the use of the Tractors. The Right Hon. Lord Rivers was President, and Sir William Barker, Vice President of this Institution, and funds to a large amount were obtained by donations and subscription. In a pamphlet entitled an account of the Perkeinean Institution, published in London in 1804, it is stated that the communications of cases are from disinterested and intelligent characters from almost every quarter of Great Britain, and that amongst others whose names are attached to these communications, are eight professors in four different universities, twenty-one regular physicians, nineteen surgeons, and thirty clergymen, twelve of whom are Doctors of Divinity. The cases published amounted in March 1802 to about five thousand. Supposing, says the writer, that not more than one cure in three hundred, which the Tractors have performed, has been published, and the proportion is probably much smaller, it will be seen that the number to this time has exceeded one million five hundred thousand! In answer to the objection that the cure was effected merely through the influence of the patient's imagination, the promoters of the Perkeinean Institution asserted that multitudes of cures were performed on in-

fants, and even on horses,\* where of course such influence could not be presumed to exist.

Such is the history of the Metallic Tractors. It is to be considered a singular and unaccountable circumstance that the remedy should have been consigned to oblivion. Is it within the bounds of probability that the vast amount of authenticated evidence that has been produced, should be resolved into a delusion, a mere phantom of the imagination ? However enthusiastic the promoters of the novel discovery may have been, it is most clear that autoptical evidence was in every instance at command, and might have precluded the possibility of deception. If, therefore, Perkinism has shared the fate of Animal Magnetism, there is no sufficient reason for supposing that its discoverer should be placed in the same class with Mesmer, as he undoubtedly was a man of honorable principles and character.

Dr. P. directed his benevolence to another object of considerable importance in medicine. He introduced into practice a remedy consisting of a combination of the vegetable with the muriatic acid in the form of common vinegar saturated with muriate of soda.† This diluted with three parts of hot water in the dose of a table spoonful, he administered with great success as a powerful antiseptic in the low state of dysentery and ulcerated sore throat. During the prevalence of yellow fever in New-York, in 1799, he visited that city, to avail himself of opportunities of testing by experiment the efficacy of the abovementioned highly antiseptic remedy, believing that antiseptics had been too much neglected in that formidable disease. After about four weeks unremitted assiduity in attending the sick, he took the disease himself, of which he died at the age of 59 years.

His son Benjamin D. Perkins, who visited England with the Tractors, died in New-York, in the year 1810. He was graduated at Yale College in 1794. He sustained a character of inestimable worth ; was frank, honorable and discreet ; in morals exemplary, in religion undissembling and devout.

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\* In many parts of the country the use of the Tractors upon horses had become as general as on the human body, and numerous extraordinary cures were certified.

† This remedy is the same as is recommended by Dr. Wright of Jamaica, except that the acetic is substituted for the citric acid.

**PICKMAN, THOMAS, M.M.S.S.** second son of the late Benjamin Pickman, Esq. of Salem, Massachusetts, was born in that town May 10th, 1773. He was graduated at Harvard College, where he held a high rank, in 1791. His medical education was acquired under the direction of the venerable Dr. Holyoke of Salem, who has survived many pupils who had themselves attained eminence in their profession.

Dr. Pickman established himself in Salem. As a physician he was distinguished for an acute and discriminating mind, sound judgment and decision. No man enjoyed more entirely the confidence of his patients. Social, cheerful and amiable, he was tenderly beloved by those most nearly connected with him. His literary taste and attainments, his various and accurate information united with uncommon colloquial powers, had endeared him to a circle of friends, who delighted in his society. By them his death was deeply lamented, and they will ever cherish his memory with affectionate respect. Dr. Pickman died January 2d, 1817.

**POTTER, JARED, M.D.** was born at East Haven, Connecticut, September 25th, 1742. His classical studies were commenced under the Rev. Philemon Robbins of Branford. He entered Yale College in 1756, and was graduated in 1760. His medical studies were begun under Dr. Harpin of Milford, and afterwards pursued under the Rev. Jared Eliot of Killingworth. He commenced practice at East Haven in 1763, and removed to Wallingford in 1772, where he died July 30th, 1810.

Too many physicians throw by their books, or pay little attention to them, after they are engaged in extensive practice. This was not the fact with Dr. Potter, who was an uncommonly diligent and industrious student, not merely while acquiring the rudiments of his profession, but to the end of his life. For many years he kept a medical school, in which several of the most eminent physicians of Connecticut were educated ; and it is worthy of remark that the late Dr. Lemuel Hopkins of Hartford, who was considered as the most able practitioner of his county, if not in the state, was his first pupil. Dr. Potter imbibed much of the spirit of Eliot for philosophical investigation, and took pains to become well acquainted with the practice and opinions of all the most celebrated writers, whether ancient or modern, upon nearly every

disease. His reading was consequently very extensive, and he was in the habit of purchasing annually all the new medical works, that were considered as valuable. Besides, for the last forty years of his life he constantly read the most distinguished reviews, and other periodical literature of the day. As a physician, he was a superior judge of symptoms, and was a very successful and energetic practitioner in puerperal fever, pleurisy, dysentery, and other severe and rapid acute diseases. In cases of this kind he was esteemed, and apparently with justice, to be superior to any physician of his time in Connecticut. It is said that he was very sceptical of the powers of medicine in most chronic complaints, and for that reason his practice in such cases was rather inefficient, and sometimes almost inert.

The doctor is well known as having had a peculiar fondness for discussing questions of speculative theology, and of the politics of the day ; and when conversing upon these subjects, his strict command of his temper, and an uncommon urbanity of manner, joined to a large share of wit and humor, usually gave him a decided advantage over most of his opponents. Like his preceptor Eliot, his practice in consultation was very extensive ; and like him too, for many years, he was probably the most distinguished and influential physician in the state. He was one of the founders, and a vice president, of the Medical Society of Connecticut.

Besides his professional eminence Dr. Potter was possessed of many peculiar talents, which contributed much to his popularity. It is said that he was always able to recollect the name and face of any person who had once been introduced to him, and the circumstances of their meeting, whatever had been the time that had elapsed. His great colloquial powers, and the frankness and candor with which he uniformly treated his medical brethren, made his presence and advice, as a counselling physician, always acceptable and interesting to the attending practitioner.

Dr. James Potter, a kinsman, friend and contemporary of the preceding, was a physician of eminence, and resided at New Fairfield. He was frequently a member of the legislature of Connecticut, and from the similarity of his name, by people residing out of the state, was often confounded with Dr. Jared Potter. No accurate sketch of his life has been obtained.—*Medical Intelligencer*.

PRESCOTT, Hon. OLIVER, M.D., M.M.S.S. and A.A.S., was born at Groton, Massachusetts, April 27th, 1731. He was of the fourth generation from John Prescott, Esq. who came from England about the year 1640. His father, the late Hon. Benjamin Prescott, of the same Groton, was a distinguished statesman and a leading member of the General Court for many years; and was once chosen Agent for the Province in England; but having never had the smallpox, and there being much danger apprehended from it at that time, he declined the appointment. He died the 3d of August, 1738, in the 43d year of his age. The subject of this article was then a little more than seven years old. His mother was Abigail, daughter of the Hon. Thomas Oliver, of Cambridge, one of his majesty's council, and a near relation of the first provincial governor of that name.

Dr. Prescott was educated at Harvard College, in Cambridge, and received his first degree in 1750. He was distinguished at college for his literary attainments and correct deportment. Soon after his graduation he commenced the study of physic under the tuition of Dr. Roby of Sudbury, who had been educated in Europe, was a disciple of the celebrated Boerhaave, and an eminent physician. After having completed his preparatory studies in medicine, he settled in Groton, his native town, and supported for many years a very extensive practice. As the number of physicians who were regularly or suitably educated, was at that day small, and those were settled far apart, the limits of his practice were extended to a great distance on every side; so that no person in this country, probably, underwent more laborious and continued exercise in the profession than Dr. Prescott, to the time when his services were pressed into civil and political employment.

Dr. Prescott was enabled to employ a greater portion of time in the extensive circuit of his professional duty, by having acquired in early life, what to many persons may appear scarcely credible, a practice of readily sleeping on horseback, when deprived of his necessary rest in bed. On a horse of easy carriage, to which he had been accustomed, and found trustworthy; and when returning homeward, where no danger was to be apprehended lest the steed should take a wrong direction, he would, when drowsiness came upon him, brace himself in the stirrup, rest a hand on the pommel of the saddle, and resign him-



self without fear, for miles together, to quiet repose. This was more particularly the case when on a favorite horse, of easy amble, which he owned for nearly twenty years, and which he usually selected for those excursions which must necessarily extend into late hours of the night. The writer of this sketch has frequently travelled with him, and witnessed his sleeping in the manner before described, his horse continuing the whole time at the usual travelling pace. The animal, accustomed to his master's manner of sitting, would seem to be conscious of being left to his own guidance, and therefore to step with more caution.

After Dr. Prescott was called into public life, until a short time previous to his death, every moment which could be spared from public affairs, was devoted to the duties of his profession. It was well and truly observed in a discourse delivered on the Sabbath succeeding his interment by an eminent divine who had known him intimately for many years, that "his distinguished professional acquirements, his prompt and unremitted attention to his patients, his peculiarly tender and pleasant manner of treating them in their distress, his moderate charges and forbearance towards the poor, and the general success which attended his practice, operated to render him for nearly half a century one of the most popular, while he was, unquestionably, one of the most eminent and useful physicians in the commonwealth." His high standing in the profession gave him a place in the Massachusetts Medical Society at the time of its incorporation in 1781. He was also an honorary member of several medical societies out of the commonwealth. He was likewise President of the Middlesex Medical Society during the whole period of its existence ; and many years before his death the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred on him by Harvard University.

Dr. Prescott took an early and decided part in the American revolution, by entering warmly into those measures which were considered necessary to vindicate our national rights, and by assisting cheerfully and largely in their defence. He exerted his influence in moulding the government into its present shape, and remained to the close of his life its invariable defender. He was very influential in suppressing the dangerous insurrection of 1786.

He received from government many appointments and commissions. In the militia he was commissioned under

the king a major, then lieutenant colonel, and colonel, and in 1775, or beginning of 1776, he was elected and commissioned by the Supreme Executive Council of the Massachusetts Bay, brigadier general of the militia for the county of Middlesex. To this office appertained at that time the direction and superintendence of the numerous guards which were raised and stationed at the bridges of rivers and various other places, to prevent the tories and enemies of the revolution from all intercourse with the British troops, who were then confined to the capital and its vicinity, or any improper correspondence with each other ; as well as to answer the repeated calls for drafts on the militia. These duties, his command including the whole county, joined to his care in aiding to organize the town committees of correspondence in that part of the country in which he lived, made his office and station not only very responsible, but very laborious.

In 1776 he was chosen a member of the Board of War. In 1777, "during the five years interregnum," when there was neither governor nor lieutenant governor, he was elected a member of the Supreme Executive Council of the state, and served in that capacity three years : in the fourth year he was unanimously reelected to the same office, but declined serving.

In 1778 he was appointed the third Major General of the militia throughout the commonwealth.

In 1779, on the death of the celebrated John Winthrop, LL.D. F.R.S., he was appointed his successor in the office of Judge of Probate of Wills, &c. for the County of Middlesex. This office he retained until his death, giving universal satisfaction by his remarkable urbanity, as well as by his able and correct manner of discharging the duties of that important station. In this department he always appeared desirous of despatching the business before him, and of preventing, as far as was consistent with correct procedure, an accumulation of costs. His manners were peculiarly adapted to soothing the feelings of that large class, who, in a state of bereavement and affliction, were called to do business in his court.

In 1781 he was appointed the second Major General of the militia ; but he considered there was not, at that time, that urgent call upon his patriotism, which in the earlier state of the war had induced him to accept a military command, and he soon tendered his resignation.

In the month of February of this year, 1781, Dr. Prescott received from government a commission to "cause to be apprehended and committed to gaol, any person, whom you shall deem the safety of the Commonwealth requires to be restrained of his personal liberty, or whose enlargement within the Commonwealth is dangerous thereto." The delegation of such authority and power shows that government held him in high estimation for true patriotism and sound discretion. He was in early life appointed a Justice of the Peace and of the quorum for his county, and was for many years a justice throughout the commonwealth ; and he received several commissions to negotiate business of importance for the state.

Dr. Prescott was incorporated a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1780. He regarded schools and the education of the rising generation as highly interesting and important to the community. Incorporated as one of the Trustees of Groton Academy, and first president thereof, he was its patron and benefactor, employing his extensive influence to promote its reputation and usefulness. He was employed in all important town business ; served as town clerk for thirteen years in succession, and was one of the selectmen for more than thirty years.

Dr. Prescott married in 1756 Lydia, daughter of the late David Baldwin, Esq. of Sudbury, by whom he had ten children ; only four of whom, two sons and two daughters, survived him. He was a firm believer in the christian religion, and, together with his consort, on entering the connubial state, made a public profession, continuing to the end of his life a conspicuous, influential and useful member of the church in Groton, contributing much to its peace, regularity and reputation.

Dr. Prescott was in stature full six feet, and rather corpulent. The versatility of his powers was remarkable. To the transaction of all matters of difficulty and moment, he showed himself at once competent. Hence the wonderful diversity of his attainments, and the surprising rapidity with which he rendered himself master of whatever came before him. He possessed and ever practised a peculiar suavity and politeness of manner, a pleasant facetiousness of address, joined to that firm, gentlemanly deportment, which was well calculated to command both esteem and respect. His colloquial talents, ready wit, and fondness for anecdote, joined to a great fund of information and learning, made him a pleasing companion,

notwithstanding his hearing was imperfect for many of the last years of his life. He died at Groton of a pectoral dropsy, November 17th, 1804, aged 73 years and about 7 months.

It is not known that he wrote any thing for the public, in the department of his profession. Indeed, his employments were too numerous, and his time was too much engrossed by public concerns and professional duties, to afford leisure for composing a book or treatise on medicine.

Dr. Prescott had but two brothers, viz. the late Hon. James Prescott, who died February 15th, 1800, aged about 79 years, and who was for many years a Senator, Counsellor, High Sheriff, and at the time of his death Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Middlesex ; and the late Col. William Prescott, who so greatly distinguished himself in the battle of Bunker's Hill and elsewhere, and who died October 13th, 1795, aged 70 years. He had also four sisters, one of whom only lived to be married, viz. Elizabeth, wife of the late Hon. Abijah Willard of Lancaster, who was, at the commencement of the revolution, one of his majesty's Mandamus Counsellors for the Province.

This article contains but little more than a chronological sketch very hastily prepared. So various were the employments and the offices, which had been held by the accomplished physician and eminent man, who is the subject of it ; and so numerous were the incidents of his eventful life, that much more time would have been necessary to have filled up the sketch properly, than the writer could command ; and therefore it is presented in this imperfect state.—*O. Prescott, M. D.*

PRESCOTT, OLIVER, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born in Groton, Massachusetts, April 4th, A. D. 1762. He was placed at Dummer School in Newbury, Byfield Parish, and was there prepared for admission to Harvard College, by the celebrated Samuel Moody. This was at that time the only free school in New-England, if not in North America. He was matriculated at Harvard University in 1779, and was graduated in course, in 1783. Very soon, if not immediately afterwards, he began the study of physic with his father, the subject of the preceding article, and finished his professional education under the celebrated Dr. James Lloyd of Boston. He passed the Board of Censors of the Massachusetts Medical Society, as licentiate, in June, 1786.

In noticing the professional progress of Dr. Prescott it is indispensable that some reference should be made to the times and circumstances of his early life, which continued to exert a very marked influence on the best period of his succeeding history. It will be seen by dates that he was but a youth in the earlier periods of the revolution ; but he was old enough to understand some of its distinguishing features, the moral and intellectual power it was exerting, and especially would he after no long time learn that whatever the individual might be in profession or talent, he would not fulfil his whole duty by a private occupation. The medical profession had given a noble illustration of this in the instances of its ablest men, who had left its duties for those of the field, or made the field the scene of their professional labors. Educated men of all the professions continued for many years after the close of the war to take a part in municipal or state affairs, which is quite unknown to those of the present day ; and he who was faithful in these relations, was not thought neglectful of his peculiar labors, however far his new duties might take him from the place of his more appropriate ones. These remarks are neither offered as an explanation, nor as an apology for the course pursued by Dr. Prescott in his early career. They are made, because they present a view, an imperfect one it is acknowledged, of a very peculiar and interesting time of our history, and serve to show how deep was the whole influence of the age upon the well educated and able men of that period. In one year after his admission to the profession, Dr. Prescott became himself an instance of what has now been briefly adverted to.

In January, 1787, a regiment was detached from the third division of the militia of the commonwealth, under the command of Col. Henry Woods, and together with other regiments from the several counties, was placed under the command of Gen. Lincoln. Dr. Prescott was commissioned as surgeon to these forces, and with his commission he received a blank warrant and a request that he would insert the name of such person as he might wish to select for his mate. The purpose for collecting these troops was the suppression of Shay's rebellion, and although this was accomplished in a few weeks, the army was obliged to traverse the western counties during the inclement season of that severe winter. Dr. Prescott after-

wards was made surgeon of the sixth regiment of the third division of the militia, and retained his office till he resigned in 1800.

The municipal and state offices filled by Dr. Prescott, show the public estimation in which he was held, and the willingness with which he met the professional sacrifices required by the performance of his public duties. In 1789 he was commissioned as a Justice of the Peace for the county of Middlesex, and was continued in it by septennial appointments without application and without interruption during his residence in that county. He was repeatedly chosen member of the General Court of the state as a representative from Groton, and declined repeated solicitations to serve in the senate for the county of Middlesex. In his own town Dr. Prescott sustained for many years the useful offices of clerk to the corporation, chairman of the board of selectmen, and of overseers of the poor, &c. &c. In this variety of municipal functions which he faithfully discharged, there is discovered the deep interest which he took in the prosperity of his native town, for they were alike uncongenial with his taste and his profession. Dr. Prescott is remembered for the zeal with which he labored to procure for his town and county, the benefits of a more liberal instruction than that to which they had been accustomed. He was one of the original founders of the Academy of Groton, and was a trustee, and the treasurer of that institution. When he removed to Newburyport, he resigned these trusts, and was soon after elected a Trustee of Dummer's Academy. He devoted a portion of his leisure to agriculture, and was rewarded for his zeal in this pursuit by the consideration in which he was held by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, of which he was a member, and by the Western Society of Middlesex Husbandmen, of which he was President.

It is, however, in his attainments, in his reputation, and in his usefulness as a physician, that Dr. Prescott's best claims are laid for a memory among his living brethren, and for this record among the dead. In 1800 he was elected a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was afterwards chosen a counsellor of the society for the district in which he lived. He pronounced the annual discourse in 1813 ; in 1814 he received the honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine from Harvard University ; in 1825 he was unanimously elected a member of the Corporation of the Massachusetts General Hospital ; and was

elected Vice President of the Medical Society in 1827. This is the public testimony which has been offered by his professional brethren to his talents, to his zeal, and to his success. Dr. Prescott had a very extensive practice in his native town, and in the towns in its vicinity ; but, thinking that an asthmatic habit and a commencing dropsy of the chest might be diminished or removed by living near the sea, and by the greater regularity of life in a large town than could be adopted or pursued in a country practice, he removed with his family from Groton to Newburyport in February, 1811. In the latter place his practice soon became extensive, and continued so until the time of his death. During his extensive professional and other engagements, Dr. Prescott still found time to study and inform himself of the various discoveries and improvements daily making in medical science both at home and abroad. He had early been remarkable for his quick apprehension and retentive memory. At college he was distinguished among his class for his acquaintance with the classics and with natural history. Through life he maintained a fondness for these studies, and amidst the engrossing duties of his profession he secured to himself leisure for the cultivation of general and more elegant literature. Habits of mind were thus produced and preserved, highly favorable for the best uses of medical study. He not only studied, but labored to add to the stock of useful knowledge in medicine by publishing the results of his own observations. Some valuable articles were contributed by him to the New-England Journal of Medicine and Surgery ; but his most important publication was the discourse before mentioned, which he delivered before the Medical Society. This discourse is entitled, "Dissertation on the Natural History and Medicinal Effects of the *Secale Cornutum* or Ergot." Dr. Prescott was led to the use of this article, and to the study of its effects, by a letter addressed to Dr. Akerly by Dr. J. Stearns of Albany, and published in the second volume of the New-York Medical Repository. Many of the statements of Dr. S. are confirmed by Dr. Prescott, and any difference of opinion between them, or diversity of result, very candidly stated. This dissertation was very favorably received by the profession. It was reprinted in Philadelphia and London, and was translated into the French and German languages, and was published in full, so far as relates to the medicinal properties of Ergot, in the article Ergot, in the 13th volume of the French "Diction-

naire des Sciences Médicales." The interest Dr. P. took in the investigation of the properties of this substance, arose, very probably, from his zeal in the study and practice of midwifery, in which department of the art he was very successful. The attention of physicians has been strongly directed to the use of Ergot since the publication of this discourse ; and to this day scarcely a number of a medical journal arrives from abroad, which does not contain some notice of the extended employment of this active medicine.

Dr. Prescott was highly respected and beloved by his patients. He had, perhaps, the most extensive practice of any physician in the county in which he lived. He acquired this confidence, the most valuable possession which a physician can acquire, by ardent zeal in the cause of the sick, diligent study, and acute observation. His manners were frank, manly and engaging, and though long afflicted with deafness, he had none of the irritability so common to that infirmity. His manners indeed were founded on a natural benevolence of heart, which led him to connect his own happiness with the welfare of those who were about him. In his domestic relations he was distinguished by equanimity of temper, kindness of manners and great warmth of affection. He sought in the bosom of his family the sources of his own happiness, which he was ever ready to sacrifice to the permanent advancement of theirs. In his political sentiments he was undisguised and consistent through life. The zeal with which he cooperated in the suppression of Shay's rebellion, showed his early attachment to good order and constitutional principles, and these he never thought proper to desert when desertion of them became fashionable. He was a firm believer in christianity, and at an early age made a public profession of his faith.

Dr. P. was twice married, first to Ann Whiting, daughter of Leonard Whiting, Esq. of Hollis, by whom he had nine children, six of whom survived him ; and afterwards to Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Oliver, Esq. who is still living.

He died in Newburyport, September 26th, 1827, after a short illness, of typhus fever, in the 66th year of his age.



# **AMERICAN MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY.**

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**Peace to their ashes, and the stamp of immortality on their memory.**

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AMERICAN  
**MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY :**  
OR  
MEMOIRS OF EMINENT PHYSICIANS  
WHO HAVE  
**Flourished in America.**

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED  
A  
**SUCCINCT HISTORY**  
OF  
MEDICAL SCIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES,  
FROM THE  
FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTRY.

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BY JAMES THACHER, M.D.

Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences ; Honorary Member of the New-York Historical Society, and of the New-York Horticultural Society, &c. ; Author of the American New Dispensatory, of the Modern Practice of Physic, and of the Military Journal.

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TWO VOLUMES IN ONE.

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VOL. II.

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“ Thou shalt lie down  
With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,  
The powerful of the earth—the wise, the good,  
Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,  
All in one mighty sepulchre.” BRYANT.

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BOSTON :  
RICHARDSON & LORD AND COTTONS & BARNARD.

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1828.



## AMERICAN MEDICAL BIOGRAPHY.

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**RAMSAY, DAVID, M.D.**, an eminent physician, distinguished patriot and popular historian, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of April, 1749. He was the youngest son of James Ramsay, an Irish emigrant, and a respectable, intelligent and enterprising agriculturalist. Mr. Ramsay, as was his custom with all his sons, gave to his son David the advantages of a liberal education. He was first sent to a common English school ; afterwards transferred to a classical academy ; and thence to the College of New-Jersey, where he was graduated in 1765. Between the age of twelve and the period when he was crowned with the honors of one of the most respectable seminaries in the United States, he exhibited many evidences of a vigorous and docile intellect, and evinced a degree of industry rarely to be found in youths of genius. The peculiar bent of his mind was early manifested. In reading the Bible at school, or in his father's house while yet in his almost infantile years, he discovered a singular attachment to its historical parts ; and was particularly distinguished in extempore recitations of the military and political events recorded in the sacred volume. This trait he cultivated until his death, and his name and his memory are not a little indebted to it for the celebrity they now bear. At the age of twelve he had completed the academical studies preparatory to an introduction to college ; but by his judicious father and other friends, was deemed too young to commence a collegiate course. In the meanwhile he was appointed assistant tutor in a respectable academy at Carlisle ; and acquitted himself in that station so as to acquire the esteem, and command the admiration

of those who directed the interests of the institution. He remained at Carlisle one year and thence proceeded to Princeton, where, notwithstanding his youthfulness, he was found competent to vie with the sturdiest genius in his classes.

From Princeton he went into Maryland, and for two years, in the capacity of private tutor, superintended the education of the children of a respectable and wealthy gentleman. His leisure was profitably employed in general reading, and the cultivation of useful knowledge. Somewhat more matured in person, and conversant in the affairs of the world, he thought of the selection of one of the public professions; all of which were so respectable, and so inviting to a young gentleman whose genius had passed favorably the ordeal of competition, and whose reputation as a scholar was already extending over his country, as to render an election of the greatest concern. He finally resolved on the study of medicine. He pursued his object with unremitting assiduity, and closed his preparatory course in the College of Pennsylvania, early in the year 1772.

While a student of medicine Dr. Ramsay became acquainted with the late Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Philadelphia, then Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College. Their acquaintance grew into a strict alliance of friendship and affection, which terminated only in the grave.

Dr. Ramsay commenced the active duties of his profession in Maryland, where he continued to practise for the space of one year. Thence he emigrated to Charleston, South Carolina. At this time he carried with him a letter of recommendation from his friend Dr. Rush, which announced him in very flattering terms. "Dr. Ramsay," said Dr. Rush, "studied physic regularly with Dr. Bond, attended the hospital and public lectures of medicine, and afterwards was graduated Bachelor of Physic with great eclat. It is saying but little of him to tell you, that he is far superior to any person we ever graduated at our college. His abilities are not only good, but great. His talents and knowledge are universal. I never saw so much strength of memory and imagination united to so fine a judgment. His manners are polished and agreeable, his conversation lively, and his behavior to all men always without offence. Joined to all these he is sound in his principles, strict, nay more, severe in his morals, and attached, not by edu-

cation only, but by principle to the dissenting interest. He will be an acquisition to your society. He writes, talks, and what is more, lives well. I can promise more for him, in every thing, than I could for myself." Enthusiastic as this drawing may seem, Dr. Ramsay proved by his future life that it was faithful. A probation of forty years confirmed the opinions of his friend.

Soon after his settlement in Charleston, Dr. Ramsay acquired great celebrity as a physician, and rose to very high eminence among his fellow citizens. His activity and usefulness were not confined to his profession. He took a leading part in public affairs, and was well qualified by his talents and general knowledge to counsel and direct in the very interesting crisis that shortly followed his domiciliation in Carolina. In the revolutionary struggle he was an enthusiastic whig, and exerted all his powers to promote the independence of his country. No reverses, no misfortunes ever caused his patriotism to waver. He was constant in his attachment to the cause of republicanism, and boldly deprecated the surrender of the cause of liberty, even in the most gloomy and inauspicious seasons. On the 4th of July, 1778, he delivered an oration to the citizens of Charleston, in which he explicitly asserted that "our present form of government is every way preferable to the royal one we have lately renounced." It ably illustrated the advantages of a newly established republican government, which he contended was best calculated to bring into action the energies of the human mind, to entice from obscurity modest and retiring merit, to obviate the baneful effects of luxury, to preserve innocence and morality among the people, to diffuse knowledge, to equalize property, and to promote public virtue and true religion. His oration had the most salutary effects upon the dispositions and resolutions of the inhabitants of Charleston. His pen was constantly employed in defence of the revolution, and in the reprobation of those sordid affections, which led too many to prefer a little property and self accommodation, to the independence of their country and the ultimate liberty of the people. Among the many fugitive essays, which he wrote on various occasions during the revolution, one entitled "a Sermon on Tea," was deservedly very popular. The text was taken from Paul's Epistle to the Colossians, 2d chapter, 21st verse: "Touch not, taste not, handle not." The sermon

was a happy appeal to the patriotism of the people, who considered the use of tea the source of the greatest evils. It humorously caricatured the British premier with chains and halters in one hand, and a cup of tea in the other, while the Genius of America exclaimed, "touch not, taste not, handle not ; for in the day thou drinkest thereof, thou shalt surely die."

Dr. Ramsay in his early years was greatly distinguished for wit and humor. He carefully watched over these traits ; and in his riper years prudently refrained from their indulgence. It was only in moments of relaxation, they could be detected in his conversation.

For some time he attended the army in the capacity of surgeon ; and was with the Charleston Ancient Battalion of Artillery at the siege of Savannah. His political career commenced with the revolution, and during its continuance he was ever actively and usefully engaged. He was an active and leading member of the legislature of South Carolina from 1776 to the conclusion of the war. He was a member of the privy council part of the time, and, with many of the most respectable citizens of Charleston, suffered banishment by the enemy to St. Augustine. In an exchange of prisoners Dr. Ramsay was released, and permitted to return to the United States, after an absence of eleven months. On his return he resumed his seat in the legislature of the state, then sitting at Jacksonborough. It was here he was distinguished by a conciliatory humanity, in his opposition to the acts confiscating the estates of those who adhered to Great Britain. Though convinced that the conduct of some of those who came under the operation of those acts, merited the severest punishment, he tenderly commiserated many who he was persuaded acted from the dictates of their consciences. The latter he would have exempted from the penalties of confiscation.

In 1782 Dr. Ramsay was elected a member of the continental Congress. In that body he was distinguished for his industry and intelligence. He greatly commended himself to the confidence and affection of his constituents by his exertions to procure them relief from the ravages of the enemy, who then overran their country. At the close of the war he returned to Charleston, and resumed the practice of physic. In 1785 he was elected to represent the Charleston district in Congress. In consequence of the absence of the president of that board, the celebrated



John Hancock, Dr. Ramsay was chosen the president pro tempore, and presided for a whole year with ability, industry and impartiality. During the following year he again returned to the duties of his profession, which he pursued with increased reputation. Dr. Ramsay was a fluent, rapid and ready speaker. His style was simple, his reasoning logical and persuasive, and his illustrations pertinent and original.

In his political life Dr. Ramsay was an example of pure disinterestedness. The good of his country preponderated all other considerations. He was an unsophisticated republican, and never changed his principles. He never intermeddled with mere party politics, was charitable towards all who differed with him in opinions ; and in his conversation and writing endeavored to allay invidious passions, and inculcate unanimity among the American people.

As an author Dr. Ramsay became extensively celebrated. In this regard his reputation is well established, not only throughout the United States, but in Europe. He excelled in the department of history. His talents, education, habits of observation, industry, memory and impartiality, eminently fitted him for an historian. His *History of the Revolution in South Carolina* was published in 1785. This work obtained great celebrity in the United States ; was shortly after its appearance translated and published in France ; and was read with avidity in every part of Europe. While he was a member of Congress in 1785, he prepared his *History of the American Revolution*. In the prosecution of this enterprise, he carefully inspected all the public records, which related to the revolution, conferred freely and frequently with his venerable friends, Dr. Franklin and Dr. Witherspoon, and visited General Washington at Mount Vernon, who gladly communicated every information in his power, to enable the historian to furnish to the world a true record of the events that resulted in the establishment of American independence. He published the *History of the American Revolution* in 1790. This work passed the ordeal of criticism, and is esteemed of high rank in Europe, as well as in the United States. It passed through two large editions, and is now entirely out of the market. In 1801 Dr. Ramsay published the *Life of Washington*. In this biography the character of the illustrious founder of the independence of the United States is well sustained. In 1808 he published the

History of South Carolina, being an extension of an interesting work entitled "A Sketch of the Soil, Climate, Weather and Diseases of South Carolina," published in 1796.

In 1811 Dr. Ramsay compiled and caused to be published the memoirs of his estimable wife, recently deceased. Besides the works mentioned, he published at different periods, "An Oration on the Acquisition of Louisiana ;" "A Review of the Improvements, Progress and State of Medicine in the Eighteenth Century ;" "A Medical Register for the Year 1802 ;" "A Dissertation on the Means of Preserving Health in Charleston ;" "A Biographical Chart, on a new plan, to facilitate the Study of History ;" and an "Eulogium on Dr. Rush."

Among the manuscripts left by Dr. Ramsay on his decease, were "A History of the United States, from their first settlement as English Colonies to the end of the year 1808 ;" and a series of historical volumes to be entitled "Universal History Americanized, or an Historical View of the World, from the earliest records to the Nineteenth Century, with a particular reference to the state of Society, Literature, Religion, and Form of Government of the United States of America." The first was published early in the year 1817, with a continuation to the treaty of Ghent by the Rev. Samuel Stanhope Smith, D.D. and LL.D. and other literary gentlemen, in three volumes 8vo. The latter had occupied the leisure of the historian more than forty years. It yet remains to be published.

Of Dr. Ramsay it has been truly said that no miser was ever so frugal of his gold, as he was of his time. He was not merely economical, but parsimonious of it to the highest degree. He never allowed for the table, recreation or repose, a single moment that was not demanded for the preservation of health. In his habits he was strictly temperate. He usually slept four hours, rose before the light of day, and meditated with a book in his hand until he could see to read. His evenings only were allotted to recreation. He never read by the light of a candle. With the approach of twilight he laid aside his book and his pen, and surrounded by his family and his friends, indulged those paternal and social feelings which are ever cherished by a good man.

The predominate trait in the character of Dr. Ramsay was philanthropy. It was the motive of all his actions. In

the constant exercise of his disposition he frequently embarked in enterprises too mighty to be accomplished by an individual. In this way his private fortune was wrecked. His genius and enterprise carried him in his anticipations far before the multitude, who generally tread on the heels of experience. Thus he was frequently tempted to vest private revenue in projects and speculations, that had for their object ultimately the public benefit, and immediately a demonstration of their practicability to enlist auxiliaries both of character and means. Running before his contemporaries, who were generally more attached to their money, than to enterprises for the improvement of the country, he was sometimes considered visionary. And indeed the result of his life proved that he was better qualified to direct the affairs of a nation, than manage a private fortune. The great concerns to which he constantly directed his reflections, were the improvement of the moral, social, intellectual and physical state of his country. To disseminate the doctrines of the Bible, to promote public schools and colleges, and to carry commerce to every man's door by means of artificial roads, canals, and the channels which nature formed, were objects that lay near to his heart. In most of them he was considered enthusiastic. Impelled by his devotion to these subjects, he labored incessantly to inspire the public mind with feelings and dispositions favorable to his views. For forty years, the press teemed with the productions of his pen designed exclusively to elevate the spirit, taste and virtues of his fellow citizens, and to improve, beautify and felicitate their common country. It is believed that the literary labors of Dr. Ramsay have contributed very much to impress upon the American character those traits which, without vanity we may assert, have raised the United States to a level with any nation on the globe. Such services can never be recompensed. Money could not compensate them. Fame, the gratitude of the people, and the happiness of his own posterity in a country made happy by his labors, can alone requite them. The first he has secured, the second begins to be lavished on his memory, and the third, it is hoped, will be realized. His children are now objects of endearment to many noble spirited gentlemen and ladies, whose sympathies, we trust for the honor of the American people, will communicate through the whole nation. They have a double claim on

the liberality of their country. To them the people are debtors for the services of their father, and for the services and sufferings of their grandfather, the patriotic Henry Laurens.

In his private character, Dr. Ramsay was a kind and indulgent husband, an affectionate and anxious parent, an instructive and entertaining companion. He was a pattern of modesty, simplicity and meekness in his intercourse with mankind. He never arrogated any superiority over his associates, whether surrounded by his family at his own fireside, or classed with senators and sages ; and he has often remarked that he was greatly debtor to this happy temperament for much of the most useful information he gathered in his pilgrimage through life. The distance which most men of eminence observe towards what are called the middle and lower classes of society, deprives them of many opportunities of knowledge. Dr. Ramsay sought information from all sources ; and by the blandness of his manners would encourage even his own servant to impart the results of his humble experience and observation.

The most charming trait in the character of Dr. Ramsay was piety. He was a member of, and in full communion with the Independent or Congregational Church in Charleston. It would be expected from the philanthropy and benevolence of his disposition that he cherished little prejudice against other sects. This was the fact. The leading affections of his heart, when touched by the influence of the gospel, grew into a charity as extensive as the human family, and he counted every one, who did the will of his Heavenly Father, a brother in Christ.

The last scene of his life proved the reality of his faith in Jesus the Savior of sinners, and the solidity of his pretensions to the character of a great man. His expiring moments heightened the lustre of his life. He was assassinated in the street a few paces from his own dwelling, in the open day, by a wretched maniac, whose intellectual malady had not been such as to require his confinement. He was shot by a pistol loaded with three balls : one passed through the coat without injury, another entered the hip and passed out at the groin, and the third entered the back near the kidneys and lodged in the intestines. The last wound proved mortal, the second day after it was received. He died on the 8th of May, 1815. On his death

bed he evinced not the slightest resentment towards the unhappy man by whose hand he fell. He bore testimony of his innocence, in the following emphatic terms : " I know not if these wounds be mortal. I am not afraid to die ; but should that be my fate, I call on all present to bear witness that I consider the unfortunate perpetrator of this deed a lunatic, and free from guilt." He died without one perturbed emotion. He met death with a serene, composed and confident reliance in the mercy of God through the blood of the Redeemer.—*Rees' Cyclopaedia*.

RAND, ISAAC, M.D. M.M.S.S. an eminent physician of Boston, was the son of Dr. Isaac Rand of Charlestown, Massachusetts, and was born on the 27th of April, 1743. After going through the preparatory studies, he entered Harvard College in 1757, and was graduated in 1761. While a member of this institution, he applied himself diligently to the subjects which were then taught, and acquired the reputation of a sound classical scholar, and of high attainments in the mathematics. During his senior year an event occurred, which furnished the most honorable testimony of his proficiency in the exact sciences. The transit of Venus over the disk of the sun, which had been looked forward to with great interest by the astronomers of Europe, and to which their attention had been strongly directed by the circulars of the celebrated Dr. Halley, took place in the year 1761. One of the stations selected for this observation was Newfoundland, and Professor Winthrop was deputed by the government of the college on this important service. The professor took with him two young gentlemen from the senior class, one of whom was Isaac Rand, and the other Samuel Williams, who was afterward professor of Natural Philosophy at Cambridge. The observations at St. John's, and the subsequent labors of Mr. Winthrop were lightened by being shared with those of his pupils.

After leaving Harvard College Mr. Rand entered on the study of medicine, at first with his father, and afterwards with the late Dr. Lloyd of Boston. Carrying with him into the profession the habits of application and of economising time, which had now become confirmed, he entered with zeal into the study of the science, to the practice of which he intended to devote the remainder of his life. In the course of three years, having qualified himself for the active duties of the profession, he settled as

physician in Boston in 1764. Here his sagacity and acuteness of observation, aided by extensive research, and devotion to business, and the urbanity of his manners, soon caused him to be distinguished ; he rose rapidly in reputation, and in the course of a few years shared largely in the best practice of the town.

At the commencement of the revolution Dr. Rand was a royalist. He was one of those persons, of whom there were not a few, who believed that the efforts of the colonists were premature, and that we were not at that time sufficiently strong to contend successfully against a nation so much superior to us in wealth, in population, and in power as Great Britain. He, however, took no active part on her side, and was subjected to no personal danger, nor even inconvenience. But as his friends were principally among those of the royalists, who were the wealthiest and most powerful, he felt the consequence of his political opinions in a temporary diminution of his practice. During the siege, when the greater part of his professional brethren had joined the American army, he remained in Boston. His duties at this time were both excessive and arduous, and he acquired among the inhabitants a high character for charity as a man, as well as for skill as a physician. Dr. Rand sympathized in the joy of his countrymen on the result of the war, and rejoiced in the adoption of the federal constitution.

In the year 1781 we find his name among the petitioners to the General Court for the incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society. In the welfare of this important institution he took great interest, he contributed for publication several valuable papers, and took an active part in every thing which could promote its usefulness, and through it, the profession to which he belonged. He successively filled its minor offices, until in the year 1798 he was raised to the dignity of its President ; the highest honor which it is in the power of the profession to bestow. He resigned the office in 1804.

Previous to this period strong efforts had been made by the physicians of Boston, and more particularly by the late Dr. James Lloyd, to rescue from the hands of unqualified females, the important branch of obstetrics, and to raise it to an honorable rank in the profession. So great was considered the necessity of changing the practice in this respect, that Dr. L., even while engaged in the most

extensive and lucrative business in the town, made a visit to Europe partly for the purpose of qualifying himself for the exigences which the practice of this highly responsible and important branch of obstetrics continually furnishes. His efforts succeeded ; that business gradually fell into the hands of the physicians, and Dr. Rand and his contemporaries completed what had been begun by Dr. Lloyd. In this branch Dr. R. acquired a high and deserved reputation.

In every thing which related to his profession, he took great interest. The habits of study which he formed in his youth, never forsook him even in old age. By his proficiency in the learned languages, he was enabled to avail himself of the stores of medical facts accumulated in the works of the great men of the profession ; and such was his zeal in the pursuit of the science to which he had devoted himself, that he eagerly sought out every new work of reputation, and made himself master of its facts and principles. Hence it happened that, even while engaged in the fatigues and anxieties of extensive practice, he was enabled to keep up with the progress of medical science, and to avail himself of what was novel and useful. Hence also it naturally happened that he was an enemy to all quackery, and could not be brought to tolerate even those, who, although they entered the profession in a regular manner, were found by him to be unqualified to fulfil the important and responsible duties of the physician.

To the close of his life the only amusement of Dr. Rand was that of reading. He translated the Greek and Latin languages with great facility, and the classics always had a place on his table. As he advanced in years, he devoted a large portion of his leisure hours to the subject of theology, and he entered with sincerity into the practical duties of religion. For many years he was a member of the church. He was through life distinguished for his honesty and integrity, and he exhibited the influence of religious principles, in practising the greatest of its virtues, charity. To the poor he gave not only his time and his experience, but also his money, and for several years several families were supported by his bounty.

Dr. Rand was a man of dignified and courtly manners. In his practice he was decisive, and from his patients and their attendants required, and obtained without violence, that obedience, which is equally necessary to the welfare

of the sick, and the reputation of the physician. Few physicians in fact possessed in a greater degree the power of acquiring and maintaining the confidence of their patients. The attachments of the friends whom he obtained in his professional career, were equally strong and durable. Dr. Rand died the 11th of September, 1822, in the 80th year of his age.

The writings left by Dr. Rand are not numerous. He contributed to the Transactions of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and among the papers is one, which is highly honorable to him as a man of observation and research, viz. on Hydrocephalus Internus. From the symptoms exhibited in these cases, and from subsequent dissections, he convinced himself that it was in most cases an acute disease, and required depletion. He therefore not only recommended, but practised copious venesection in the first stage. This paper was written in 1785, and, although the observation had been made and practised upon in Europe, yet it was new even there, and was known to have been original in him. During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Boston, in 1798, the fears of the inhabitants and of those of the neighboring towns were highly excited. To allay these apprehensions Dr. Rand wrote a series of essays upon the subject, which were published in the newspapers; and by pointing out the probable causes and the means of avoiding them, succeeded in a very considerable degree in removing the groundless prejudices which existed.

Dr. Rand by appointment delivered a discourse to the Massachusetts Medical Society, which was subsequently printed. The subject was the Use of the Warm Bath and Foxglove in Phthisis Pulmonalis. It is an honorable testimony of the learned research and practical knowledge of the author.—J. G.

REDMAN, JOHN, M.D., first President of the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, was born in that city, February 27th, 1722. After finishing his preparatory education in the Rev. Mr. Tennent's academy, he entered upon the study of physic with Mr. John Kearsely, then one of the most respectable physicians of Philadelphia.

When he commenced the practice of his profession he went to Bermuda, where he continued for several years. Thence he proceeded to Europe for the purpose of perfecting his acquaintance with medicine. He spent a year in Edinburgh, while the medical school in that city was in



the hands of the first Monroes, Sinclair, Alston, Plummer and Rutherford. He likewise passed a year in attending Guy's Hospital, and some time in attending lectures, dissections and hospitals in Paris. Copies of the lectures of the above professors, and notes of the cases which occurred in the hospitals while he attended them, are now in the possession of his grandson, Dr. John Redman Coxe, written with singular correctness and perspicuity. He was graduated in the University of Leyden on the 15th July, 1748, under the celebrated Albinus Gaubius, and at a time when that seminary retained a large portion of the reputation it had derived from the illustrious name of Dr. Boerhaave. The subject of his inaugural dissertation was "Abortion," which he handled with great learning and ingenuity. Few better essays upon that subject are to be met with in any language. The conclusion of this dissertation strongly indicates the piety which distinguished the early part of his life. "God grant that my studies and labors may be directed to the glory of his name and to the welfare of my neighbors," was his prayer.

After receiving the highest medical honors in his profession he returned to his native country and settled in Philadelphia. He soon succeeded in business, and in the course of a few years ranked among the oldest physicians in the city in point of celebrity in medicine. For a while he practised surgery and midwifery, but finding the labors of those branches of medicine incompatible with the delicacy of his health, he declined them and confined himself exclusively to the practice of physic. His principles in medicine were derived from the writings of Dr. Boerhaave, but his practice was formed by the rules of Dr. Sydenham. He early saw that the modes of practice which were recommended by that enlightened physician in the seventeenth century in England, were equally proper in the eighteenth century in America, from the sameness of the manners of the inhabitants of both countries in those different periods of time. He saw distinctly the truth of Dr. Sydenham's remarks upon the laws of epidemics, and regulated his practice by them. He considered a greater force of medicine necessary to cure modern American, than modern British diseases, and hence he was a decided friend to depletion in all the violent diseases of our country. He bled freely in the yellow fever of 1762, and threw the weight of his venerable name into the scale

of the same remedy in the year 1793. In the diseases of old age he considered small and frequent bleedings as the first of remedies. He entertained a high opinion of mercury in all chronic diseases, and he gave it in the natural smallpox with a view of touching the salivary glands about the turn of the pock. He introduced the use of turpeth mineral as an emetic in the gangrenous sore throat of 1764, and such was its efficacy, that he did not lose a patient who took it in the early stage of that epidemic. Towards the close of his life he read the latest medical writers, and embraced with avidity some of the modern opinions and modes of practice. He published about the year 1759 a defence of inoculation, and advised the use of mercury to prepare the body for the reception of the smallpox.

About the fortieth year of his age Dr. Redman was afflicted with an abscess in his liver, the contents of which were discharged by expectoration through his lungs. He was frequently confined by acute diseases, and suffered much from the rheumatism as he advanced in years. His fellow citizens and his medical brethren were not insensible of his merit. He was elected one of the physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital immediately after its establishment, and afterwards the first President of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. He discharged the duties of these stations faithfully, and reluctantly retired from them in consequence of the weakness and infirmities of age. He served as a trustee of the College of Philadelphia and New-Jersey for many years, and more than once refused to stand a candidate for a seat in the Legislature of Pennsylvania, before the American revolution. He was faithful and punctual in his attendance upon his patients. In a sick room he possessed virtues and talents of a peculiar kind. He suspended pain by his soothing manner, or chased it away by his conversation, which was occasionally facetious and full of anecdotes, or serious and interesting, according to the nature of his patients' diseases, or the state of their minds.

The respectability of his character as a physician will derive a lustre from the history of his domestic and religious character. He married Miss Mary Sobers, a lady of uncommon talents and accomplishments of mind and body, soon after he settled in Philadelphia, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. His sons died in their

infancy. In the year 1770 his elder daughter married Daniel Coxe, Esq., one of the King's counsel of New-York. This gentleman adhered to the royal party during the American war, in consequence of which he went to England, whither he was followed by his wife and children in the year 1785. The separation of his daughter was to her father a most poignant affliction. He accompanied her with tears to the vessel that conveyed her from his sight ; but his distress was soon alleviated by the suggestions of religion. These he expressed the next day to a friend, whom he informed that his mind had been composed by reflecting upon the following words of our Savior, " He that loveth father or mother more than me, is not worthy of me ; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me, is not worthy of me." He was remarkably attached to all the branches of his family. At the funeral of his brother, Joseph Redman, in 1779, after the friends were assembled, he rose from his seat, and grasping the lifeless hand of his brother, he turned round to his children and other relations in the room, and addressed them in the following words ; " I declare in the presence of God and of this company, that in the whole course of our lives no angry word nor look has ever passed between this dear brother and me." He then kneeled down by the side of his coffin, and in the most fervent manner implored the protection and favor of God to his widow and children.

Dr. Redman was an eminent christian. In the early and middle stages of life he was not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, and liberally contributed to its support ; but the evening of his life was the meridian of his piety. Being easy in his circumstances, and feeling the labors of his profession incompatible with his health, he early declined business. He was elected an elder of the second Presbyterian Church in the year 1784. The duties of this office gave him both employment and delight. He gave secretly and liberally to the poor, and when confined by sickness he conveyed his bounty to them by the hands of a friend. He visited his old patients regularly two or three times a year, and always left behind him some pious remarks or anecdotes, that were not soon forgotten. His conversation was facetious, animated, free from the querulousness of old age, and always seasoned with the grace of the gospel. In his own house he passed his time chiefly in reading books of devotion, and in other religious exercises.

He thought humbly of himself, and often lamented his slender attainments in religion. For some years before his death he heard and read with difficulty, from the decay of his hearing and eyesight, but under the pressure of these evils he was so far from complaining that he was constantly finding out reasons why he should be contented and thankful. Such was the natural cheerfulness of his temper that upon serious subjects he was never grave. He spoke often of death, and of the scenes which await the soul after its separation from the body, with the same composure that some men speak of going to bed, or visiting a new and pleasant country. He was a stranger to bigotry, and he often worshipped with sects of christians that differed in principles and forms from the one with which he was united. With all the virtues and piety which have been ascribed to him, it would be unjust to conceal that he possessed in the early and middle stages of life a quick and irritable temper. But the sun never went down upon his anger, and to his pupils and servants he has been known to make acknowledgments for even a hasty expression.

In the month of December, 1806, his younger daughter died. She had lived with her parents for fifty years, and secluded herself from society in order to soothe their declining years. Her death left them in a state of the most distressing solicitude, and at a time when they were least able to bear it. His elder daughter, who had been separated from him nearly four and twenty years, upon hearing of the death of her sister immediately tore herself from her husband and children, and crossed the Atlantic to alleviate by her presence the grief of her bereaved parents. Her arrival exhibited a scene of joy, such as seldom occurs in domestic history. The good old man said to a friend upon this occasion, "that he had formerly owed ten thousand talents to his Maker, but that his debt had now increased so much by the arrival of his daughter that he was determined to become bankrupt, and throw himself entirely upon the mercy of his Divine creditor." The lamp of life, which was nearly extinguished in him and his wife, suddenly blazed forth upon this occasion, but it was only to consume the oil which fed it with the more rapidity. Mrs. Redman died on the 24th of November, two months after the sight of her daughter, in the 84th year of her age. The distress occasioned by this event

was severely felt by her husband. They had passed nearly sixty years together in the most uninterrupted harmony. She was the best friend and wisest counsellor in all the trials and difficulties of his life. His affections now centred themselves wholly in his surviving daughter : but time and nature forbade the long duration of his last portion of social happiness.

On Friday the 18th of March he took a walk to his grandson's. In the afternoon he discovered an unusual degree of sprightliness in his conversation. After drinking tea he rose to light a candle in order to go into an adjoining room. In attempting to walk, he staggered and was led to a chair by his daughter. He squeezed her hand and gave her a look which indicated a belief that the time of his departure had arrived. His disease immediately assumed all the symptoms of apoplexy, of which he died without pain and apparently without the least consciousness of his situation, about five o'clock the next day, aged 86 years and 20 days. It would seem from the easy manner in which he expired, that the messenger of death had been instructed to blindfold him in order to conceal from his view the dreary objects which sometimes surround the passage out of life.

He was buried at his request in the Presbyterian churchyard exactly in the same spot in which his mother had been interred fifty years before. This attachment to the dust of our ancestors, though a deep seated principle in human nature, is seldom felt except in old age, or in the hour of death. Its extent is universal, and its final cause is no doubt a wise one. Dr. Redman was somewhat below the middle stature ; his complexion was dark, his eyes black and uncommonly animated ; and his manner both in gesture and speech such as indicated a mind always busy and teeming with new and original conceptions of human and Divine things.—*Medical Museum, Vol. V.*

RIDGELY, DR. CHARLES, an eminent physician of Dover, Delaware, was descended from an opulent and respectable family of Devonshire in England, a younger branch of which came to America toward the latter part of the seventeenth century, and settled on the western shore of Maryland. His immediate parents were Nicholas Ridgely, an inhabitant of Dover, and Mary Vining, widow of Benjamin Vining, who resided near the town of Salem, in West Jersey, and whose maiden name was Middleton.

Their eldest son, who is the subject of this memoir, was born near Salem, January 26th, 1738. His parents being in affluent circumstances, and occupying a respectable station in society, directed particular attention to the education of this son, as well as of their other children. One of his first teachers was Dr. Samuel McCall, a native of Ireland, residing in Dover, a self-taught scholar, and much distinguished in his day for his mathematical knowledge. From the care of Dr. McCall he was transferred to that of David James Dove of Philadelphia ; and afterwards completed his literary course in the "Academy of Philadelphia," which had been recently founded under the auspices of Dr. Franklin, and which in 1755, by an additional charter, was constituted a college. Of this institution it is believed that young Ridgely was one of the earliest pupils.

In the year 1754 he entered on the study of medicine in Philadelphia, under the direction of Dr. Phineas Bond. His studies were conducted under all those advantages which the talents and learning of his preceptor, and the institutions of the city of Philadelphia then afforded ; and with all that diligence and success which might have been expected from his ardent and enlightened mind. In 1758 he commenced the practice of his profession in Dover ; and there he continued to reside during the remainder of his life, in very extensive medical business, in the enjoyment of a professional reputation of the highest grade, and rich in the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Dr. Ridgely was not only distinguished as a learned, skilful and popular physician ; but his powerful and active mind, his liberal reading on other subjects besides those of his profession, his strict integrity and honor, and his remarkable urbanity of manners, recommended him to his fellow citizens as a suitable candidate for a variety of public stations. Accordingly, from a short time after his settlement in Dover until his death, he scarcely passed a year in which he did not fill some important office, and frequently several of them. He was elected a member of the legislature of Delaware in 1765, and continued to be annually reelected to the same trust, with very few intervals, until near the close of his life. Several years before the revolution he was the presiding judge in Kent county, in the Court of Common Pleas, and in the Court of Quarter Sessions, which two courts were then held by the same

judges. He was a member of the convention which formed the constitution of Delaware in 1776 ; and when the new government was set in operation, he was again called to the bench in one of the courts just mentioned, and continued, it is believed, to occupy that honorable station as long as he lived.

In the midst of this career of usefulness and honor, Dr. Ridgely was removed by death. In the month of August 1785, by great exposure and exertion in the discharge of his professional duties, he brought on a severe attack of bilious fever, which confined him to his bed and room for nearly three months. In the beginning of the following November, when his weakness was yet so great that he could only ride a mile or two in a carriage, he unwarily exposed himself by descending from his carriage and standing for a short time on ground more damp than he supposed. In a few hours he was seized with a peripneumonia notha, which terminated his important life on the 25th of that month, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

As Dr. Ridgely was respectably descended, so he was no less respectably allied. He had two wives. By his first marriage he had five children, all of whom are now deceased, excepting Nicholas Ridgely, Esq. the present chancellor of the state of Delaware. By his second wife, also, he had five children, of whom two only survive, viz. Henry Moore Ridgely, Esq. at present a senator from Delaware, in the Congress of the United States ; and Mary, the wife of Dr. William Winder Morris, an eminent physician of Dover.

Dr. Ridgely was eminently amiable and exemplary in all the relations of domestic life. His intercourse with his professional brethren was always marked with the most delicate honor and magnanimity. He feared no man as a rival. He honored merit wherever he found it : and he was ready to bestow praise and patronage wherever they were due. His brother physicians, as might have been expected, reciprocated his honorable treatment, and gave him an unusual share of their esteem and confidence. Perhaps no physician in Delaware ever had so large a number of respectable medical practitioners trained up under his direction as Dr. Ridgely.

Profound as his medical learning was, he by no means confined himself to that department of reading. With ancient and modern history ; with the principal works of

imagination and taste in his own language ; and with the leading elementary works on law and government, he was familiar. It was, indeed, often a matter of wonder to his friends, how a physician, in such extensive practice as he was, could find time to read so much out of the immediate line of his profession : how he could manifest so intimate an acquaintance with the principles of law on the bench, of government in the legislative body, and of ancient and modern literature in the social circle. The true secret of the whole was, that few men have been more rigid economists of time than he was, and few more methodical in their daily pursuits. When not employed in business, or occupied by company, he was seldom without a book in his hand. This habit he carried more particularly into the studies of his profession. He by no means ceased, as is the case with too many physicians, to study medicine, when he entered on the practice of it. He never gave up his medical books. He regularly procured and read every new publication within his reach on this subject ; and he continued to do this up to the time at which he was arrested by the disease, in the summer of 1785, from which he never fully recovered.

Dr. Ridgely had a force and versatility of talent, which rendered him eminent in every business in which he engaged. It is true that by the bedside of his patients, and in medical consultation, he appeared to peculiar advantage ; but it is no less true, that, as a judge, a legislator, or a literary companion, he was scarcely less distinguished. Almost every one who had occasion to transact business with him remarked, with how much intelligence, facility and despatch he went through it ; that nothing ever appeared further from his mind than a disposition to raise unnecessary disputes or obstacles in any concern of which he had the control ; that the most perfect candor and honesty marked all his proceedings ; and that his politeness and benevolence were no less conspicuous than the other qualities which have been mentioned.

Dr. Ridgely was a firm believer in revelation, and a decided friend to religion, as a precious gift of God, and as essential to human happiness both here and hereafter. He was a member of the Episcopal church, and much attached to that form of worship ; while at the same time he was free from that bigotry, which is so apt to reign in the minds of men who have small information, and narrow views.



He was very attentive to the moral and religious education of his children ; and often remarked that he considered mere intellectual culture, and the knowledge of books, without the discipline of the passions and of the heart, without sedulous endeavors to bring the youthful mind under the habitual influence of virtue and piety, as rather fitted to "finish off a villain," than to make a good member of society. Upon the principle implied in this maxim, it was his constant aim to train up his own family. He had a profound respect for the sacred scriptures, read them much himself, and recommended them to his children and all around him, as worthy of their diligent study.

Such was Dr. Ridgely. As a professional man, a patriot, a father of a family, and a member of civil and religious society, he filled an important and honorable space while he lived ; and at his premature removal left behind him memorials of various excellence and usefulness, which will long, very long be cherished ; and which render him well worthy of being commemorated among the distinguished men of our country.—*S. M.*

ROMAYNE, NICHOLAS, M.D. was born in the city of New-York in September, 1756, and obtained his elementary education at Hackinsack in New-Jersey, under the instruction of Dr. Peter Wilson, the late Professor of Languages in Columbia College. About the commencement of the revolutionary war he went abroad, and completed his medical studies at Edinburgh. He also visited the continent, and spent two years in Paris. Upon his return to New-York, he commenced his professional career. He was advantageously known as an able private lecturer on many branches of medical science, and it is with pleasure I bear witness to his efficient instrumentality in the foundation of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was its first president, and gave instruction in that institution on Anatomy and the Institutes of Medicine. His address as President, delivered at the first opening of the college in November, 1807, is an honorable specimen of his diversified attainments and talent. He died in New-York in 1817.

"Dr. Romayne," says Dr. M'Leod, "was a man of strong mind, well cultivated and much improved by reading, by the society of learned men, and by travelling. I knew him in health and in the midst of disease ; in affluence and in adversity. He had much self command,

though naturally of powerful passions, and very tender sensibilities. Bereaved of all his children in their infancy, he could not endure the recollection of their endearment. On the last evening of his life he gave testimony to a near friend of his respect for the scriptures. He departed too suddenly for me to see him on his death bed."

The following interesting notices concerning the professional services of Dr. Romaine, are extracted from a communication made by Dr. Mitchell.

He returned from Europe when I was a young student, before the termination of the revolutionary war ; probably during the year 1782. His arrival excited considerable conversation both here and in Philadelphia ; insomuch that my curiosity was awakened to see him. He was reported to have improved his opportunities with singular diligence. This was, I supposed, the fact, for he had visited Paris, Leyden, London and Edinburgh ; at the latter of which places he went through the course of study required by the statutes of the university, and published a dissertation in Latin, according to the usage, on the formation of purulent matter, "*De Generatione Puris.*" It was said of him, that he composed it himself, without the aid of a "grinder," or hireling writer or translator. Besides the knowledge of his own or the English tongue, he had attained more classical learning than the greater part of the members of the profession acquire. He could speak Low Dutch and French fluently. The circle of his acquaintance embraced most of the respectable citizens. He was endowed with a goodly and healthy frame, and was exceedingly industrious ; wherefore he manifested a strong desire to rise and become conspicuous in the world.

He accordingly very soon displayed his knowledge of the human body by giving private lectures on its anatomy, which were then very instructive to those who attended. For, though the course was by no means complete, it was valuable as far as it extended.

Very soon after the enemy had withdrawn from this city in 1783, the exiled inhabitants returned, and the constituted authorities made it the seat of the state government. One of their early acts was the revision of the charter that had been granted during the provincial administration to King's College. Among other alterations rendered necessary by the change of circumstances, was

the appointment of a new board of trustees. Of these Dr. Romaine was one of the persons nominated in the law.

He had, no doubt, imbibed high expectations from this new situation. But they do not appear to have been realized to any considerable degree. It pleased the trustees to constitute a Faculty of Physic, by the appointment of professors. The place of trustee held by Dr. Romaine was incompatible with that of professor. This restricted his activity, and he soon became impatient of the restraint. He had qualified himself for a teacher, but was now unemployed to lecture upon any branch of his profession. His situation became irksome on another account. His superior attainments in literature and medicine elevated him with high notions, and filled him with contemptuous notions of some who had been less fortunate in education than himself. He could not carry points as he wished, and the adoption of some measures to which he was opposed, induced displeasure and coolness, and finally led him, after some years, to resign.

The first Faculty of Professors having performed but small service, Dr. Romaine exercised his talents as a private teacher, and so assiduous and laborious was he, that he gave instruction on almost all the branches of professional knowledge. Anatomy, practice of physic, chemistry and botany, were taught by this extraordinary man ; and with such success, that he drew hearers from distant places, even from Canada. After his separation from Columbia College, he found it expedient to procure academic honors, and more especially diplomas from some other seminary.

Dr. Romaine, from a variety of circumstances, being now, as it were, under the bar of the profession, discontinued teaching, and some time after made another visit to Europe ; during which he posted up the arrears of information, and modernized himself by the men he saw, and the institutions he examined.

There was not, however, much for him to do for several years after his return. At length opportunities offered of making him, by rapid steps, a most active and conspicuous member of the profession. In 1806 an act was passed for incorporating medical societies for the commonwealth and its respective counties. By a sudden and singular change of sentiment, Dr. Romaine was called from his retirement,

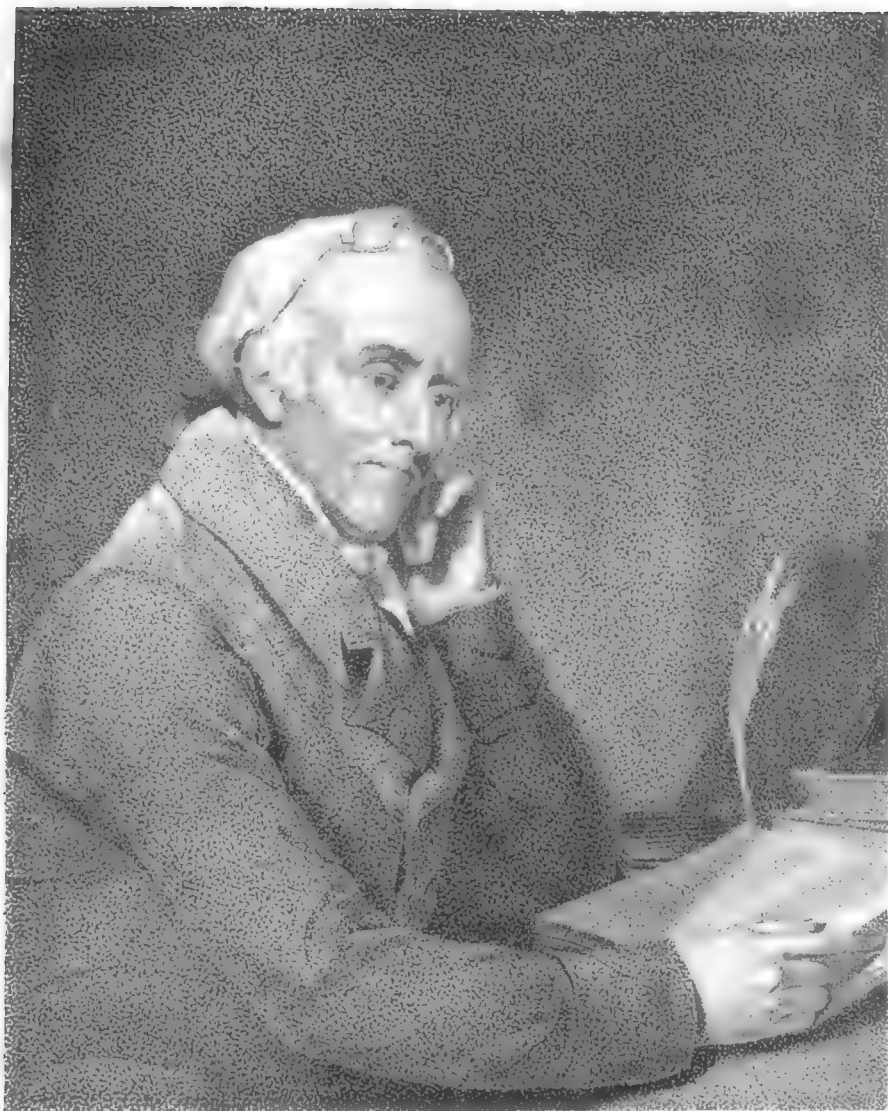
and elected the first president of the society for the city and county of New-York, on the 1st of July in that year.

During the succeeding winter, on the resignation of the place of state delegate by the gentleman who held it, Dr. Romaine was chosen the delegate to the State Medical Society, in Albany. After taking his seat in the central body, he was promoted to the presidency of that association also ; and by such advances did he rise to honor.

The sway he had attained did not terminate here. The act herein before mentioned, for providing a College of Physicians and Surgeons, had been torpid or dormant ever since its passage in 1791. The day was approaching when the regents of the University were to act under its provisions. Dr. Romaine found a great deal of business in medical matters and otherwise to occupy him at the seat of government. Among other things, the solicitation of a charter for the aforesaid purposes, employed him in the most satisfactory manner. Though he was assisted by numerous and powerful supporters, he may be considered as the leading agent on the occasion ; and the person, probably, without whose urgent and pressing instances the work would not have been completed. He was rewarded for his services by being selected as the first president of the new institution in 1807.—*Hosack's Discourse at the opening of Rutgers Medical College, New-York.*

When Dr. Romaine first returned from Europe after finishing his studies, the British army was still in possession of the city of New-York ; and being a firm friend to the cause and liberties of his country, he declined going into that city, although he might have done so without any suspicion of his patriotism, as peace was approaching, and it was known that the army would of course soon depart. He therefore remained about two years at the house of a friend in Philadelphia, where by the charms of his conversation, agreeable manners, and regular conduct, he was esteemed as an excellent companion. Here he entered into a respectable share of practice, and had he resolved to make that city his permanent residence, there was no reason to doubt of his complete and successful establishment ; for to an uncommonly fine person he added the more weighty considerations of fine talents and great attention to his patients. But a matrimonial engagement, which he had contracted before leaving New-York for Europe, determined him to take up his residence in that city, which he did





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**BENJAMIN RUSH M.D.**

immediately after it was abandoned by the British. He would have been, says one who knew him well, the most eminent medical man in New-York, had he confined himself to his profession ; but unfortunately he engaged in trade and other speculations, which drew him off from his profession and involved him in embarrassments which were highly detrimental to him. On his last visit to Europe, he was admitted as a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, a compliment which, it is believed, had never before been paid to any American.

RUSH, BENJAMIN, M.D. was born December 24th, 1745, old style, on his father's plantation, about fourteen miles to the northeast of Philadelphia. His ancestors migrated from England to Pennsylvania soon after its first settlement in the seventeenth century. In the eighth or ninth year of his age, he was sent for education to Nottingham, Maryland, about sixty miles southwest from Philadelphia, where an academy had been long conducted with great reputation by the Rev. Samuel Finley, D.D. afterwards president of the college in Princeton, New-Jersey. The inhabitants of this retired spot were plain country farmers, who cultivated so indifferent a soil that they could not derive a living from it without strict economy and the daily labor of their own hands. In their comparatively depressed situation, as to worldly matters, their morals were a virtual reproach to the inhabitants of many districts who enjoyed a much greater proportion of the good things of this life. Almost every dwelling house was so far a church that the reading of the word of God, and the offering up of family prayers, generally recurred every day ; there were few, or rather no examples of, or temptations to immorality of any kind. Among these people, remarkable for their simplicity, industry, morality and religion, young Rush spent five years of his early youth in acquiring a knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages. He there also learned much of human nature, and began to class mankind according to their state of society ; a distinction of which he profited very much in his future speculations in political philosophy. The transition from the variegated scenes of Philadelphia to this sequestered seat of learning, industry and religious habits, could not fail of making a strong impression on his observing mind. He there acquired a reverence for religion, its consistent professors and teachers : a prepossession in



favor of regular orderly conduct, of diligence, industry, punctual attention to business, and in general of such steady habits as stamped a value on his character through life. In laying a solid foundation for correct principles and conduct he was essentially aided by the faultless example, judicious advice, and fatherly care of the learned and pious Dr. Finley. This accomplished instructor of youth was not only diligent and successful in communicating useful knowledge, but extended his views far beyond the ordinary routine of a common education. He trained his pupils for both worlds, and in his intercourse with them, had respect to their future as well as present state of existence. To young Rush he was devoted by peculiar ties : for he was fatherless and the son of the sister of his beloved wife. A reciprocation of affection took place between the parties, much to the credit and advantage of both.

Benjamin Rush, after finishing his preparatory course of classical studies at Nottingham, was, in 1759, entered a student in the college of Princeton, then under the superintendence of President Davies. This eloquent preacher was pronounced by his pupil, Rush, not only in early youth, but in his adult age, to have been the greatest pulpit orator this country had produced. Under the tuition of this distinguished preacher and able instructor, he, whose life we are reviewing, obtained the degree of A.B. in 1760, and before he had completed his fifteenth year. The next six years of his life were devoted to the study of medicine, under the direction of Dr. Redman, who in his day ranked among the most eminent of the Faculty in Philadelphia. The writings of Hippocrates were among the first books Benjamin Rush read in medicine, and while he was an apprentice he translated his aphorisms from Greek into English. He also began to keep a notebook of remarkable occurrences, the plan of which he afterwards improved, and continued through life. From a part of this record, written in the seventeenth year of the age of its author, we derive the only account of the yellow fever of 1762 in Philadelphia, which has descended to posterity. In the same year he was one of Dr. Shippen's ten pupils, who attended the first course of anatomical lectures given in this country. Two years after, and while he was a daily attendant in the shop of Dr. Redman, he commenced his brilliant career as an author. On the expiration of his



apprenticeship, Benjamin Rush went, in 1766, to Edinburgh, to prosecute his studies at the university in that city, then in the zenith of its reputation, and there was graduated M.D. in 1768. His Thesis "*De Coctione Ciborum in Ventriculo*," was written in classical Latin, and I have reason to believe, without the help of a grinder of theses, for it bears the characteristic marks of the peculiar style of its author. Its elegant latinity was the least part of its merits.

While Dr. Rush was a student of Edinburgh, he had an opportunity of distinguishing himself, and at the same time of rendering an acceptable service to his alma mater, Nassau Hall. On the death of President Finley, in 1766, the Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, of Paisley in Scotland, was chosen his successor. He at first declined the acceptance of the office, and it remained vacant more than a year. The trustees of that institution entertaining a high opinion of their alumnus Rush, appointed him their commissioner to solicit Dr. Witherspoon to accept the presidency of Princeton College, and the presbytery, of which he was a member, to consent to his dismission. These commissions were ably and successfully executed. The address and talents of the young commissioner inspired the parties with a belief that a college which had already produced such fruit was worthy of their attention. I leave it to others to appreciate the consequences of this successful negotiation, to the interests of religion and learning in America, and only refer you to the observations of Dr. Miller, the learned historian of the eighteenth century, on this event. Dr. Rush spent in London the next winter after his graduation in Edinburgh. In the following spring he went over to France, and in the fall of the same year returned to Philadelphia, and commenced the practice of physic. In 1769 he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the College of Philadelphia. This addition to Drs. Shippen, Morgan, Kuhn and Bond, who had begun to lecture a few years before, made a complete set of instructors, and fully organized this first medical school in America. By a subsequent arrangement in 1791, the college was merged in a university, and Dr. Rush was appointed Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine, and of Clinical Practice in the University of Pennsylvania.

In this and his preceding capacity, as lecturer in chemistry, Dr. Rush has been a public teacher of medicine for forty-four years, and has in several instances, and particularly in that of him who now addresses you, taught two successive generations, for the father and son have both been his pupils. From his first commencing practice Dr. Rush always had a considerable number of private pupils. Their whole number cannot now be exactly ascertained, but it is recollected that they amounted to fifty in the last nine years of his life. His class pupils, for several of the first years in which he gave lectures, varied from sixteen to thirty, but since 1789 have been from year to year rapidly increasing. In 1812 they amounted to four hundred and thirty. His pupils were generally changed every second or third year. From these data, it is not an improbable conjecture that, in the course of his life, Dr. Rush has given public instructions to two thousand two hundred and fifty pupils. These have extended the blessings of his instructions and improvement in the theory and practice of medicine, over the United States, and in a few instances to South America, the West Indies, and the eastern continent. On his return to Philadelphia, he found the Boerhaavian system of medicine, which locates diseases in the fluids of the human body, to be generally accredited. Having acquired at Edinburgh a partiality for the spasmodic system of Cullen, he publicly taught it as preferable to that of Boerhaave; but his active mind daily brooding over the medical systems of others, correcting them by his own observations and reasonings, and bringing the whole to the test of experience, in its progressive course began to receive new light. He was convinced that medicine was in its infancy; that there was great room for improvement. Instead of being proud of his attainments, he was disposed to exclaim "*Heu quantum nescimus.*" Of how much are we ignorant? It would require a much longer time than is allotted to the exercises of this day, to give a complete view of the improvements Dr. Rush has introduced in our profession. A slight sketch of the most prominent is all that your time will permit to be brought into view on this occasion.

When Dr. Rush began to lecture, diseases were reduced in the manner of the botanists, to orders, classes, genera, and species. In Cullen's *Genera Morborum*, the names of one thousand three hundred and eighty-seven diseases are

enumerated, each supposed to have something appropriate, and requiring in some respects different treatment. This embarrassing, perplexing mode of acquiring a knowledge of diseases, has been simplified by our American professor, who has substituted in its place the state of the system. In his public instructions, the name of the disease is comparatively nothing, but the nature of it every thing. His system rejects the nosological arrangement of diseases, and places all their numerous forms in morbid excitement, induced by irritants, acting upon previous debility. It rejects, likewise, all prescriptions for the names of diseases, and by directing their application wholly to the forming and fluctuating state of diseases, and of the system, derives from a few active medicines, all the advantages which have been in vain expected from the numerous articles which compose European treatises upon the *materia medica*. This simple arrangement was further simplified by considering every morbid state of the system to be such as either required depletion or stimulation. The art of healing diseases, is therefore acquired by the student, who from the pulse and other auxiliary sources of information, knows the state of the system of his patient, so far as to be a competent judge whether depletion or stimulation is indicated, and when this is ascertained, is farther instructed so as to be able to select the remedies which are best suited either to deplete or stimulate, according to the strength, habits, and other peculiar circumstances of his patient. The younger members of our profession cannot appreciate the value of this arrangement as well as those who are seniors. The latter have had to undergo the uphill work of coming to the names of diseases by a circuitous rout, the former have been led by one or two plain paths, which speedily brought them to the same goal, or what is equivalent thereto, or rather far superior to it. The old system requires reading and memory ; the new, judgment and observation. It is no exaggeration to say that a student of an investigating mind, on the present simple plan of acquiring a knowledge of the healing art, can be better prepared for entering on his profession in three years, than he could on the former system in five. Contemplating diseases through this new light, our professor found that a great majority of them, in this new and plentiful agricultural country, required depletion, and that, of all modes of depletion, bleeding was the easiest, safest and

shortest, and next to it cathartics ; that these two remedies, judiciously applied, with a suitable regimen, carried to a proper extent, and discontinued at the proper period, would often extinguish an otherwise formidable disease when in the forming state, or lay a foundation for its cure after it was actually formed. Practice, founded on these simple principles, removed much present evil, and prevented more. It was about the year 1790, and twenty-one years after Dr. Rush had been a practitioner and professor of medicine, when he began to publish his new principles in medicine. These were more or less developed by him in his successive annual course of lectures, for the subsequent twenty-three years of his life. They were also discussed in inaugural dissertations by many of the candidates for medical degrees in the same period. These young gentlemen were at full liberty to sift their merits or expose their fallacy. Freedom of inquiry was inculcated on them, not only as a privilege, but as a duty.

It is believed that no man understood the human pulse better than Dr. Rush. In his lectures he used to call it the "nosometer of the system." From long and accurate acquaintance with all its varieties and the circumstances by which it was affected, he made himself acquainted with the state of his patient's system, and by suitable remedies reduced it to its proper standard, and generally removed the disease. Pursuing the train of reasoning and observation just stated, and applying it to practice, our professor adopted modes of treating several diseases, which had not been usual in this country, and which by many practitioners have been deemed improvements in the practice of physic. Dr. Rush carried bleeding and the depleting system farther than ever had been done before by any of his contemporary physicians. He in like manner urged the use of calomel, to which he gave the name of the Sampson of the materia medica, farther than was common among the physicians who had preceded him. Instead of making a profitable secret of his innovations in practice, he came forward boldly ; taught them to his numerous pupils ; published them to the world, and defended them with his pen. The wittings of the day concurred in the propriety of the name of Sampson, which he had given to this favorite remedy, calomel ; but for a very different reason, because, say they, "it has slain its thousands." Unmoved by the sneers of some, the misrepresent-

ations of others, and the general partiality for old opinions and aversion to innovations, Dr. Rush steadily pursued his course through evil report and good report. The same hand which subscribed the declaration of the political independence of these states, accomplished their emancipation from medical systems formed in foreign countries, and wholly unsuitable to the state of diseases in America. These Dr. Rush pronounced to be of a higher grade, and to require more potent remedies than were usually prescribed for similar diseases in the old world. It cannot be denied that the depleting mercurial plan of treating diseases so strongly recommended by our professor, has done mischief in the hands of persons who did not understand it, or were ignorant of the limitation and cautions necessary in its application, or who were not sufficiently attentive to the varying symptoms of their patients. But it is nevertheless true, that the system, compared with those which preceded it, is a good one, and that the objections to it apply to every efficient, energetic plan of treating diseases. He is unworthy of the name of a physician, who does not occasionally risk his reputation by bold but judicious efforts to save the lives of his patients. It is to be regretted that the great reformer who introduced the innovations, commonly called the American system of medicine, did not live a few years longer to discover more of the laws of the animal economy, more principles in medicine, and at the same time, to perfect those he had already discovered and promulgated. Than Dr. Rush, no man more readily retracted his opinions, when new light from any quarter whatever pointed out their defects. Such candor is a characteristic of a great mind. He knew only one being, the great Eternal, "who changeth not," and also knew that when a fallible imperfect mortal gave up his opinion, on being convinced that it was erroneous, he became wiser than he was before. Much did he lament the injury sustained by the medical world, from the obstinate adherence of the celebrated John Hunter, to opinions he had once promulgated, and characterised him in his lectures, as one "who never gave up any thing he had once asserted till he gave up the ghost." It was not so with Dr. Rush; his latter works and lectures frequently announce his reasons for relinquishing doctrines he believed and taught in younger life. A friend to free inquiry, he invited his numerous pupils to think and judge for themselves, and would free-

ly, and in a friendly manner, explain his principles, resolve their doubts, listen to their objections, and either yield to their force, or show their fallacy.

Dr. Rush's principles of medicine were by him successfully applied to the cure of consumptions, dropsies, hydrocephalus internus, apoplexy, gout, and other diseases of the body, and also to madness and other diseases of the mind. A free use of the lancet, in almost every case, and particularly in some in which it had rarely or never before been used, was one of his first and most common prescriptions. His ingenious and able defence of bleeding is founded on his theory of fever, in which he premises, "that fevers of all kinds are preceded by general debility, natural or accidental. From this a sudden accumulation of excitability takes place, whereby a predisposition to fever is created. Depression of the whole system follows, and where the stimuli, whether morbid or natural, are continued, reaction is induced, and in this reaction, according to its greater or less force and extent, consist the different degrees of fever. It is of an irregular or a convulsive nature. In common cases it is seated primarily in the blood vessels, and particularly in the arteries, which pervade every part of the body. "All diseases are preceded by debility. There is but one exciting cause of fever, and that is stimulus; and that consists in a preternatural and convulsive action of the blood vessels. All the supposed variety of fevers have but one proximate cause, and that is morbid excitement. All ordinary fevers being seated in the blood vessels, it follows, of course, that all those local affections, we call pleurisy, angina, phrenitis, internal dropsy of the brain, pulmonary consumption, and inflammation of the liver, stomach, bowels and limbs, are symptoms only of an original and primary disease in the sanguiferous system." The artificial division of fever into genera and species is rejected by our professor for the following reasons: "Much mischief has been done by nosological arrangements of diseases; they erect imaginary boundaries between things which are of a homogeneous nature; they degrade the human understanding, by substituting simple perceptions to its more dignified operations in judgment and reasoning; they gratify indolence in a physician, by fixing his attention upon the name of a disease, and thereby leading him to neglect the varying state of the system; they moreover lay a foundation for

disputes among physicians ; the whole *materia medica* is infected with the baneful consequences of the nomenclature of diseases ; for every article in it is pointed only against these names, and hence the origin of the numerous contradictions among authors who describe the virtues and doses of the same medicines. By the rejection of the artificial arrangement of diseases, a revolution must follow in medicine. Observation and judgment will take the place of reading and memory, and prescriptions will be conformed to existing circumstances."

At the end of a long dissertation of sixty-six pages, explaining and defending his principles, Dr. Rush "commits the whole to his pupils, to be corrected and improved," and concludes with observing,

" We think our fathers fools, so wise we grow,  
Our wiser sons, I hope, will think us so."

His "Defence of Bloodletting as a Remedy for Certain Diseases," grounded on the preceding theory of fever, occupies eighty-six pages in his fourth volume. He therein states, that bloodletting in violent fevers, when used at a proper time, and in quantity suited to the force of the disease, frequently strangles a fever, when used in its forming state, and thereby saves much pain, time and expense to a patient ; and that it imparts strength to the body, by removing the depression which is induced by the remote cause of the fever. Dr. Rush after enumerating the other advantages of blood letting in fevers, then proceeds to refute the objections to it, and to state the circumstances under which it is forbidden. For these we refer to his works.

Dr. Rush's fondness for the lancet was objected to by many. But his friends consider it as a great improvement in the treatment of the serious diseases most generally prevalent in the United States. On the correctness of this opinion, his fame as an improver of medicine, in a great degree, must eventually rest. We have therefore for the most part used his own words in the defence of this practice, though for the sake of brevity, we have omitted the many pleasant anecdotes and striking cases by which he illustrates his principles ; and for the same reason we have often omitted or shortened the arguments he adduces in support of them.

The year 1793 brought the theories and the native strength of Dr. Rush's genius to the test. Philadelphia

was in that year desolated by the yellow fever, after it had disappeared for thirty-one years. This baffled the skill of the oldest and most judicious physicians. They differed about the nature and treatment of it ; but, in general, free evacuations were supposed to be improper from the depressed state of the pulse, which was a common symptom. The prevailing fever was considered by some as a modification of the influenza, and by others as the jail fever. Its various grades and symptoms were considered as so many different diseases, all originating from different causes. There was the same contrariety in the practice of the physicians that there was in their principles. This general calamity lasted for about one hundred days, extending from July till November. The deaths in the whole of this distressing period were four thousand and forty-four, or something more than thirty-eight each day, on an average. Whole families were confined by it. There was a deficiency of nurses for the sick. There was likewise a great deficiency of physicians, from the desertion of some and the sickness and death of others. At one time there were but three physicians who were able to do business out of their houses, and at this time there were probably not less than six thousand persons ill with the fever.

A cheerful countenance was scarcely to be seen for six weeks. The streets every where discovered marks of the distress that pervaded the city. In walking, for many hundred yards, few persons were met, except such as were in quest of a physician, a nurse, a bleeder, or the men who buried the dead. The hearse alone kept up the remembrance of the noise of carriages or carts in the streets. A black man leading or driving a horse with a corpse on a pair of chair wheels, met the eye in most of the streets of the city at every hour of the day, while the noise of the same wheels, passing slowly over the pavement, kept alive anguish and fear in the sick and well, every hour of the night.

All the physicians, for some time after the commencement of this disease, were unsuccessful in its treatment. Dr. Rush tried, in the first instance, the gentle purges used in the yellow fever of 1762 ; but finding them unsuccessful, and observing the disease to assume uncommon symptoms of great prostration of strength, he laid them aside about the 20th of August, and had recourse to ipocac-



uanha on the first day of the fever, and to the usual remedies for exciting the action of the sanguiferous system, and gave bark in all its usual forms, and joined wine, brandy and aromatics with it. He applied blisters to the limbs, neck and head. Finding them all ineffectual, he attempted to rouse the system by wrapping the whole body in blankets dipped in warm vinegar. He rubbed the right side with mercurial ointment, with a view of exciting the action of the vessels in the whole system through the medium of the liver. None of these remedies appeared to be of any service. Perplexed and distressed by his want of success, he waited upon Dr. Stevens, an eminent and worthy physician from St. Croix, who happened then to be in Philadelphia, and asked for such advice and information upon the subject of the disease as his extensive practice in the West Indies would naturally suggest. He replied, that "he had long ago laid aside evacuations of all kinds in the yellow fever ; that they had been found to be hurtful, and that the disease yielded more readily to bark, wine, and, above all, to the use of the cold bath. He advised the bark to be given in large quantities and in every possible way, and pointed out the manner in which the cold bath should be used so as to derive the greatest benefit from it." These remedies were faithfully applied by Dr. Rush. Bark was prescribed by him in large quantities and in various ways. Buckets full of cold water were frequently thrown upon patients. The bark was offensive to the stomach, or rejected by it in every case. The cold bath was grateful, and procured relief in several cases by inducing a moisture on the skin. But three out of four of the patients died to whom the cold bath was administered in addition to the tonic remedies before mentioned.

The disease had a malignity and an obstinacy never before observed, and it spread with a rapidity and mortality far exceeding its ravages in the year 1762, when the yellow fever had last visited Philadelphia. From thirty to seventy died every day, though one third of the inhabitants of the city had fled into the country. In this dreadful state of things, what reward would be reckoned too great to the man who should find out and publish a remedy which would generally cure this wasting pestilence? Heaven, in mercy to the afflicted inhabitants, raised up such a man in Dr. Rush. Well knowing the numerous

and complicated distresses which pestilential diseases had often produced in other countries, the anguish of his soul was inexpressible. But he did not despair : he believed that good was commensurate with evil, and that there did not exist a disease for which the goodness of Providence had not provided a remedy. Under this impression he applied himself with fresh ardor to investigate this novel disease. He ransacked his library and pored over every book that treated of the yellow fever. The result of his researches, for a while, was fruitless. The accounts of the symptoms and cure of the disease, by the authors he consulted, were contradictory, and none of them appeared altogether applicable to the prevailing epidemic. He had among some old papers a manuscript account of the yellow fever as it prevailed in Virginia in the year 1741, which was given to him by Dr. Franklin, and had been written by Dr. Mitchell of Virginia. This was read with attention. In it a remark was made, " that evacuation by purges was more necessary in this than most other fevers, and that an ill-timed scrupulousness about the weakness of the body was of bad consequence in these urging circumstances." Solid reasons were given in support of this opinion, and it was added, " I can affirm that I have given a purge in this case, when the pulse has been so low that it could hardly be felt, and the debility extreme ; yet both one and the other have been restored by it." This single sentence was the groundwork of Dr. Rush's subsequent successful practice.

From these words a new train of ideas suddenly broke in upon his mind. He was led to believe that the weak and low pulse generally observed in this fever, which had hitherto deterred him from the use of strong evacuating remedies, was the effect of debility from an oppressed state of the system. His reasoning powers taught him to distinguish between this and an exhausted state. His fears from large evacuations were in a moment dissipated. He adopted Dr. Mitchell's theory and practice, and resolved to follow them. It remained now only to fix upon a suitable purge to answer the purpose of freely discharging the contents of the bowels. Calomel, in doses of ten grains, quickened by ten or fifteen grains of jalap, was preferred. The effects of this powder, especially when repeated according to circumstances, not only answered but far exceeded his expectations. It perfectly cured four out

of the first five patients to whom he gave it, notwithstanding some of them were advanced several days in the disease.

After such a pledge of the safety and success of this new medicine, he communicated the prescription to such of the practitioners as he met in the streets. Some of them he found had been in the use of calomel for several days, but as they had given it in small and single doses only, and had followed it by large doses of bark, wine and laudanum, they had done little or no good with it. He imparted the prescription to the College of Physicians on the third of September, and endeavored to remove the fears of his fellow citizens, by assuring them that the disease was no longer incurable. The credit it acquired brought him an immense accession of business. It continued to be almost uniformly effectual in nearly all those cases which he was able to attend, either in person or by his pupils. But he did not rely upon purges alone to cure the disease. The theory of it which he had adopted, led him to use other remedies to abstract excess of stimulus from the system. These were blood letting, cool air, cold drinks, low diet, and application of cold water to the body. He began by drawing a small quantity of blood at a time. The appearance of it when drawn, and its effects upon the system, satisfied him of its safety and efficacy, and encouraged him to proceed. Never did he experience such sublime joy as he now felt in contemplating the success of his remedies. It repaid him for all the toils and studies of his life. The conquest of this formidable disease was not the effect of accident, nor of the application of a single remedy, but it was the triumph of a principle in medicine. In this joyful state of mind he entered in his note book, dated the 10th of September, "Thank God ! out of one hundred patients whom I have visited or prescribed for this day, I have lost none."

Being unable to comply with the numerous demands which were made upon him for the purging powders, notwithstanding he had employed three persons to assist his pupils in putting them up, and finding himself unable to attend all the persons who sent for him, he furnished the apothecaries with the receipt for the mercurial purges, together with printed directions for giving them, and for the treatment of the disease. Had he consulted his own interest he would silently have pursued his own plans of

cure with his old patients, who still confided in him and his new remedies ; but he felt at this season of universal distress, his professional obligations to all the citizens of Philadelphia, to be superior to private and personal considerations, and therefore determined, at every hazard, to do every thing in his power to save their lives. Under the influence of this disposition he addressed a letter to the College of Physicians, in which he stated his objections to Dr. Stevens's remedies, and defended those he had recommended. He likewise defended them in the public papers, against the attacks that were made upon them by several of the physicians of the city, and occasionally addressed such advice to the citizens as experience had suggested to be useful, to prevent the disease. In none of the recommendations of his remedies did he claim the credit of their discovery. On the contrary, he constantly endeavored to enforce their adoption by mentioning precedents in favor of their efficacy from the highest authorities in medicine. This controversy was encouraged merely to prevent the greater evil of the depopulation of Philadelphia, by the use of remedies which had been prescribed by himself as well as others, not only without effect, but with evident injury to the sick. The repeated and numerous instances of their inefficacy, and the almost uniform success of the depleting remedies, after awhile procured submission to the latter from nearly all the persons who were affected by the fever.

Many whole families, consisting of five, six, and in three instances, of nine members, were recovered by plentiful purging and bleeding. These remedies were prescribed, with great advantage, by several of the physicians of the city. But the use of them was not restricted to the physicians alone ; the clergy, the apothecaries, many private citizens, several intelligent women, and two black men prescribed them with great success. Nay more, many persons prescribed them to themselves. It was owing to the almost universal use of these remedies that the mortality of the disease diminished in proportion as the number of persons who were affected by it increased. It is probable that not less than six thousand of the inhabitants of Philadelphia were saved from death, by purging and bleeding, during the autumn of 1793.

The credit which this new mode of treating the disease acquired in all parts of the city, produced an immense in-

flux of patients to Dr. Rush. His pupils were constantly employed ; at first in putting up purging powders, but after awhile only in bleeding and visiting the sick.

Between the 8th and 15th of September Dr. Rush visited and prescribed for between a hundred and a hundred and twenty patients a day. In the short intervals of business, which he spent at his meals, his house was filled with patients, chiefly the poor, waiting for advice. For many weeks he seldom ate without prescribing for numbers as he sat at table. To assist him, three of his pupils, Mr. Stall, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Cox, accepted of rooms in his house, and became members of his family. Their labors now had no remission. He employed every moment in the interval of his visits to the sick, in prescribing in his house for the poor, or in sending answers to messages from his patients. Unable to comply with the numerous applications that were made to him, he was obliged to refuse many every day. His sister counted forty-seven applicants for medical aid turned off in one forenoon before eleven o'clock. In riding through the streets he was often forced to resist the entreaties of parents imploring a visit to their children, or of children to their parents. He was sometimes obliged to tear himself from persons who attempted to stop him, and to urge his way by driving his chair as speedily as possible beyond the reach of their cries. While he was thus overwhelmed with business, and his own life endangered without being able to answer the numerous calls made on him, he received letters from his friends in the country pressing him in the strongest terms to leave the city. To one of these letters he replied, " that he had resolved to stick to his principles, his practice and his patients to the last extremity."

Dr. Rush's incessant labors of mind and body, by night and by day, nearly cost him his life ; but by bleeding and purging, under the direction of Mr. Fisher, then one of his pupils, but now an eminent physician of Columbia, South Carolina, his valuable life was preserved for twenty-three years' further usefulness.

We have been particular in describing the yellow fever as it appeared in Philadelphia in 1793. This was the most eventful year in the life of Dr. Rush. It laid a solid foundation for his fame, which will last till sin and sickness are no more. Had the same events taken place in the early ages of the Pagan world, he would have been deified ;

if in the dark ages of the Christian era, he would have been canonized, and worshipped as a saint. His friends in the nineteenth century prefer no farther claim on their countrymen, than that his meritorious and beneficial services be properly appreciated and kept in grateful remembrance.

We now proceed to consider Dr. Rush as an author. His printed works consist of seven volumes, six of which treat of medical subjects, inclusive of the volume of Introductory Lectures. One is a collection of essays, literary, moral and philosophical. Your time will not permit our review of these invaluable writings, or even to recapitulate the subjects therein discussed.\* I shall therefore pass

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\* Dr. Rush's works, printed in his lifetime, treat on the following subjects :

" An inquiry into the natural history of medicine among the Indians of North America, and a comparative view of their diseases and remedies, with those of civilized nations.

" An account of the climate of Pennsylvania, and its influence upon the human body.

" An account of the bilious remitting fever, as it appeared in Philadelphia in the summer and autumn of the year 1780.

" An account of the scarlatina anginosa, as it appeared in Philadelphia in the years 1783 and 1784.

" An inquiry into the cause and cure of the cholera infantum.

" Observations on the cynanche trachealis.

" An account of the efficacy of blisters and bleeding in the cure of obstinate intermitting fevers.

" An account of the disease occasioned by drinking cold water in warm weather, and the method of curing it.

" An account of the efficacy of common salt in the cure of hæmoptysis.

" Thoughts on the cause and cure of pulmonary consumption.

" Observations upon worms in the alimentary canal, and upon anthelmintic medicines.

" An account of the external use of arsenic in the cure of cancers.

" Observations on the tetanus.

" The result of observations made upon the diseases which occurred in the military hospitals of the United States, during the revolutionary war.

" An account of the influence of the military and political events of the American revolution upon the human body.

" An inquiry into the relations of tastes and aliments to each other, and upon the influence of this relation upon health and pleasure.

" The new method of inoculating for the smallpox.

" An inquiry into the effects of ardent spirits upon the human body and mind, with an account of the means of preventing, and the remedies for curing them.

" Observations on the duties of a physician, and the methods of improving medicines ; accommodated to the present state of society and manners in the United States.

" An inquiry into the causes and cure of sore legs.

" An account of the state of the body and mind in old age, with observations on its diseases and their remedies.

" An inquiry into the influence of physical causes upon the moral faculty.

" Observations upon the cause and cure of pulmonary consumption.

" Observations upon the symptoms and cure of dropsies.

" Inquiry into the cause and cure of the gout.

" Observations on the nature and cure of the hydrophobia.

over this part of my subject, only remarking that his medical works are so original, and so well adapted to our local situation, that they should be carefully perused by every medical student ; for they unfold true principles,

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" An account of the measles as they appeared in Philadelphia in the spring of 1789.

" An account of the influenza, as it appeared in Philadelphia in the years 1790 and 1791.

" An inquiry into the cause of animal life.

" Outlines of a theory of fever.

" An account of the bilious yellow fever, as it appeared in Philadelphia in 1793, and of each successive year till 1805.

" An inquiry into the various sources of the usual forms of the summer and autumnal diseases in the United States, and the means of preventing them.

" Facts, intended to prove the yellow fever not to be contagious.

" Defence of bloodletting, as a remedy in certain diseases.

" An inquiry into the comparative states of medicine in Philadelphia, between the years 1760 and 1766, and 1805.

" A volume of essays, literary, moral and philosophical, in which the following subjects are discussed :

" A plan for establishing public schools in Pennsylvania, and for conducting education agreeably to a republican form of government. Addressed to the legislature, and citizens of Pennsylvania, in the year 1786.

" Of the mode of education proper in a republic.

" Observations upon the study of the Latin and Greek languages, as a branch of liberal education ; with hints of a plan of liberal instruction without them, accommodated to the present state of society, manners and government, in the United States.

" Thoughts upon the amusements and punishments which are proper for schools.

" Thoughts upon female education, accommodated to the present state of society, manners and government, in the United States of America.

" A defence of the Bible as a school book.

" An address to the ministers of the gospel of every denomination in the United States, upon subjects interesting to morals.

" An inquiry into the consistency of the punishment of murder by death, with reason and revelation.

" A plan of a peace-office for the United States.

" Information to Europeans who are disposed to migrate to the United States of America.

" An account of the progress of population, agriculture, manners and government in Pennsylvania.

" An account of the manners of the German inhabitants of Pennsylvania.

" Thoughts on common sense.

" An account of the vices peculiar to the Indians of North America.

" Observations upon the influence of the habitual use of tobacco, upon health, morals and property.

" An account of the sugar maple tree of the United States.

" An account of the life and death of Edward Drinker, who died on the 17th of November, 1782, in the one hundred and third year of his age.

" Remarkable circumstances in the constitution and life of Ann Woods, an old woman of ninety-six years of age.

" Biographical anecdotes of Benjamin Lay.

" Biographical anecdotes of Anthony Benezet.

" Paradise of negro slaves—a dream.

" Eulogium upon Dr. William Cullen.

" Eulogium upon David Rittenhouse.

" A volume of lectures, most of which were introductory to his annual courses of lectures on the institutes and practice of medicine.

" Medical inquiries and observations on the diseases of the mind.

which will lead the physician of genius to correct, efficient, and energetic practice. To the American student they are of incalculable value ; for they convey that practical knowledge of our climate, and peculiar diseases, which will contribute more to his success than any books he can import from foreign countries. His miscellaneous essays deserve the serious attention of every member of our numerous legislative bodies. His lecture on medical jurisprudence should be read, not only by physicians, but by judges, jurymen and lawyers. This subject has never before been discussed in this country, and very little can be gleaned from all who have written on it in Europe.

Dr. Rush's volume of *Medical Inquiries and Observations on the Diseases of the Mind*, is the fruit of accurate observation and long experience, in the Pennsylvania Hospital. It was his last contribution to the literature of his country. Though for many years digested in his own mind, it was published only six months before his death. Dr. Rush was a public writer for forty-nine years, and from the nineteenth to the sixty-eighth year of his age. It was a singular opinion of his own, but in unison with his medical system, "that ideas, whether acquired from books or by reflection, produced a plethora in the mind, which can only be relieved by depletion from the pen or tongue." It is matter of wonder how a physician who had so many patients to attend ; a professor who had so many pupils to instruct, could find leisure to write so much, and at the same time so well. Our wonder will cease when it is known that he suffered no fragments of time to be wasted, and that he improved every opportunity of acquiring knowledge, and used all practicable means for retaining and digesting what he had acquired. In his early youth he had the best instructors, and in every period of his life great opportunities for mental improvement. He was gifted from Heaven with a lively imagination, a retentive memory, a discriminating judgment, and he made the most of all these advantages. From boyhood till his last sickness, he was a constant and an indefatigable stu-

" An account of the effects of stramonium or thorn apple, published in 1770.

" A letter on the usefulness of wort in ill conditioned ulcers, to his friend Dr. Huck of London, which was published in the *Medical Observations and Inquiries* of London, vol. iv.

" A letter to Dr. Hosack, on the Hydrophobia, published in *Hosack and Francis' Medical Register*, 1814."



dent. He read much, but thought more. His mind was constantly engrossed with at least one literary inquiry, to which, for the time, he devoted his undivided attention. To make himself master of that subject, he read, he meditated, he conversed. It was less his custom to read a book through, than to read as much of all the authors within his reach, as bore on the subject of his present inquiry. His active mind brooded over the materials thus collected, compared his ideas, and traced their relations to each other, and from the whole drew his own conclusions. In these, and similar mental exercises, he was habitually and almost constantly employed, and daily aggregated and multiplied his intellectual stores. In this manner his sound judgment was led to form those new combinations which constitute principles in science. He formed acquaintances with his literary fellow citizens and all well informed strangers who visited Philadelphia, and drew from them every atom of information he could obtain, by conversing on the subjects with which they were best acquainted. He extracted so largely from the magazine of knowledge deposited in the expanded mind of Dr. Franklin, that he mentioned to me many years ago, his intention to write a book with the title of *Frankliniana*, in which he proposed to collect the fragments of wisdom which he had treasured in his memory, as they fell in conversation from the lips of this great original genius. To Dr. Rush every place was a school, every one with whom he conversed was a tutor. He was never without a book, for, when he had no other, the book of nature was before him, and engaged his attention. In his lectures to his pupils, he advised them to "lay every person they met with, whether in a packet boat, a stage wagon, or a public road, under contribution, for facts on physical subjects." What the professor recommended to them, he practised himself. His eyes and ears were open to see, hear, and profit by every occurrence. The facts he received from persons in all capacities are improved to some valuable purpose. He illustrates one of his medical theories by a fact communicated by a butcher; another from an observation made by a madman, in the Pennsylvania Hospital. In his scientific work on the diseases of the mind, he refers frequently to poets, and particularly to Shakspeare, to illustrate the history of madness, and apologizes for it in the following words. "They, poets, view the human mind in all its

operations, whether natural or morbid, with a microscopic eye, and hence many things arrest their attention which escape the notice of physicians." It may be useful to students to be informed that Dr. Rush constantly kept by him a note book, consisting of two parts, in one of which he entered facts as they occurred ; in the other, ideas and observations as they arose in his own mind, or were suggested by others in conversation. His mind was under such complete discipline, that he could read or write with perfect composure, in the midst of the noise of his children, the conversation of his family, and the common interrogatories of his visiting patients. A very moderate proportion of his time was devoted to sleep, and much less to the pleasures of the table. In the latter case, sittings were never prolonged but in conversation on useful subjects, and for purposes totally distinct from the gratifications of appetite. In the course of nearly seventy years spent in this manner, he acquired a sum of useful practical knowledge that has rarely been attained by one man in any age or country. It may be useful to survivors, to be informed that his incessant labors, both of mind and body, neither shortened his life, nor impaired his health. In a letter I received from him in 1803, he observes, " I continue, through divine goodness, to enjoy, in the fifty-ninth year of my age, uncommon good health." In a letter to his kinsman Dr. Finley in 1809, he observes : " in my sixty-fifth year I continue to enjoy uncommon health, and the same facility in studying and doing business that I possessed five and twenty years ago." And again, in another, dated March 4th, 1813, about six weeks before his death, he observes : " through divine goodness, I continue to enjoy uncommon health for a man in his sixty-ninth year. Now and then I am reminded of my age by light attacks of the tussis senilis, but they do not impair my strength nor lessen my facility in doing business."

Medical inquiries were the primary objects of Dr. Rush's attention ; but he took such a comprehensive view of his profession, that he made all branches of knowledge tributary to it. From the philosophy of mind as connected with the body, he drew many useful hints respecting the functions and diseases of the latter. Theology ; metaphysics ; natural and civil history ; philosophy, natural, moral and political ; the principles and practices of agriculture ; the liberal, mechanical, and chemical arts ; his-

tories of voyages, travels, and the lives of illustrious characters, and the nature of man under all its varieties of age, country, religion, climate, and form of government, were so far known to him as to furnish facts, illustrations, and analogies, casting light on medical subjects. To politics, in the earlier part of his life he paid great attention ; but not to the unimportant controversies stirred up by those who were contending for the loaves and fishes of government. Three great political subjects, for the time being, engrossed his whole soul ; the independence of his country ; the establishment of good constitutions for the United States, and for his own particular state ; to enlighten the public mind and to diffuse correct ideas. On these important disquisitions he labored night and day. Many were the productions of his pen, which, under a variety of names, issued through the medium of the press to dispel prejudices, obviate objections, correct erroneous impressions, and, in general, to dispose his fellow citizens to discern the true, extended, permanent interest of their country, and to sacrifice to it all minor considerations.

While he was engaged in the bustle of politics his country, sensible of his merit, conferred sundry offices on him. He was a member of the congress which, in 1776, declared these states free and independent. In this event he gloried, and from it he expected much good, and that of no common kind. While others counted on the increase of commerce, the influx of riches, the high rank among nations, which awaited the new formed states, Dr. Rush's attention was preferably fixed on the expansion of the human mind likely to grow out of independence. From the happy state of things which left every man at liberty to think what he pleased, and to speak what he thought ; to pursue his own interest and the impulse of his mind in any way he thought best, without any control from privileged orders, or the restraints of arbitrary government, he anticipated a great increase of talents and knowledge. The progress of eloquence, of science, and of mind in all its various pursuits, was considered by him as the necessary effect of republican constitutions, and in the prospect of them he rejoiced. Nor was he disappointed, for in a lecture, delivered in November 1799, he observes : " From a strict attention to the state of mind in this country, before the year 1774 and at the present time, I am satisfied the ratio of intellect is as twenty are to one, and of know-

ledge as a hundred are to one, in these states, compared with what they were before the American revolution."

Dr. Rush served his country in the capacity of Physician General, in the middle department, in the revolutionary army. The observations he there made on our hospitals, army diseases, and the effects of the revolution on the army and people, are before the public. They constitute a valuable part of his works, and afford an ample testimony of his talent for accurate observation.

For the last fourteen years of his life, he was the treasurer of the national mint, by appointment of President Adams. This office was conferred as a homage to talents and learning, and did equal honor to him who gave and to him who received it.

In the establishment and support of the many private associations for the advancement of human happiness which abound in Pennsylvania, Dr. Rush was uncommonly active. Of Dickinson College, in Carlisle, he may be said to be the father. He saw the tide of population spreading westward, and the necessity of its being accompanied with the means of acquiring an education competent to the purposes of civil society. His influence was not only instrumental in establishing this western college, but particularly so in bringing from Scotland the Rev. Dr. Nisbet, of Montrose, to preside over it. Very few have crossed the Atlantic to settle in these states, whose literary attainments were equal to this gentleman's. Dr. Rush's zeal in the cause of literature was not confined to colleges and universities, he eloquently advocated the establishment of free schools, and for conducting the education of the youth of the country agreeably to its republican form of government. "Let there be," he said, "free schools established in every township, or in districts consisting of one hundred families. In these schools let children be taught to read and write, and the use of figures. By this plan the whole state will be tied together by one system of education, and become one great and enlightened family." He further adds: "The independence of our country has created a new class of duties to every American. It becomes us, therefore, to adapt our modes of teaching to the peculiar form of our government." He observes, "that an education in our own, is to be preferred to an education in a foreign country. That the only foundation for a useful education, in a republic, is to be laid in reli-

gion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty ; and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments." He declares, " that he would rather see the opinions of Confucius or Mahomed inculcated upon our youth, than see them grow up wholly devoid of a system of religious principles. But the religion he recommends is that of the New Testament." He observes, " all the doctrines and precepts of the Christian religion are calculated to promote the happiness of society, and the safety and well being of civil government. A Christian cannot fail of being a republican. The history of the creation of man, and of the relation of our species to each other by birth, which is recorded in the Old Testament, is the best refutation that can be given to the divine right of kings, and the strongest argument that can be used in favor of the original and natural equality of all mankind. A Christian cannot fail of being a republican, for every precept of the Gospel inculcates those degrees of humility, self-denial, and brotherly kindness, which are directly opposed to the pride of monarchy and the pageantry of a court. A Christian cannot fail of being useful to the republic, for his religion teacheth him that no man 'liveth to himself.' And, lastly, a Christian cannot fail of being wholly inoffensive, for his religion teacheth him, in all things, to do to others what he could wish, in like circumstances, they should do to him."

The Philadelphia Dispensary, the first institution of the kind in the United States, owes its origin to the illustrious philanthropist whose death we lament. His pen demonstrated the advantages of such an institution ; and when the public mind was favorably impressed towards it, he preconcerted with Dr. Moyes, the blind philosopher, to give a public lecture, the proceeds of which were to be appropriated as the beginning of a fund to support this novel institution. Curiosity, prompted by benevolence, drew forth a very large audience. A handsome sum was collected. This formed a nucleus for private contributions. These flowed in so profusely, that the institution was speedily organized, and from the year 1786 to this day, it has been a great public blessing, extending annually medical relief to several hundreds of the sick poor in their own houses. The good example was speedily followed by Boston, New-York, Baltimore, Charleston, and some other cities.

The enlarged ideas that grew out of the American revolution, were in unison with the comprehensive views of Dr. Rush. He reflected with horror on the sanguinary punishments annexed to crimes by European, and consequently American legislators, which had no tendency to reform offenders. To eradicate prejudices, and to substitute in their place correct ideas of the legitimate objects of penal laws, was an arduous labor, but essentially prerequisite to any reform. To accomplish a revolution in the public mind favorable to these views, and to the principles of the new republican system of government, a society was instituted in Philadelphia, for promoting political inquiries. This usually met at the house of Dr. Franklin. I have no precise information who was the first mover of these investigations ; but it is well known that Dr. Rush was an active member of the society ; and that in 1787, he read before it his elaborate dissertation entitled, " An Inquiry into the effects of public punishments on criminals and upon society." In this paper he proposed that all punishments should be private, and that they should consist of confinement, different kinds of labor, low diet, and solitude, accompanied by religious instruction. The principles contained in this pamphlet, were opposed with acrimony and ridicule in the newspapers. They were considered as the schemes of a humane heart, but wild and visionary imagination, which it was impossible ever to realize.

In 1788 Dr. Rush published a second pamphlet, entitled, " An Inquiry into the justice and policy of punishing murder by death," in which he denied the right of government to punish even the crime of deliberate murder by death. To this pamphlet a reply was written by the Rev. Mr. Annan, who chiefly derived his arguments from Scripture. Upon those texts Dr. Rush published a number of remarks, intended to prove that they all referred to the dispensations of Noah and Moses, and that they were completely abrogated by the doctrines and precepts of the Gospel. In the year 1793, Mr. Bradford, the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, published an " Inquiry how far the punishment of death is necessary in Pennsylvania," calculated to enforce and establish the principles and arguments previously laid down by Dr. Rush. At the following session of the legislature, the punishment of death was abolished for all crimes except murder of the first

degree. In all other cases, solitary confinement and labor were substituted in lieu of corporal punishment and common imprisonment. The result has been highly gratifying to the friends of humanity. Crimes have diminished in number. Few reconvictions have taken place, though many offenders have been restored to society, and in several cases before the expiration of their sentence. Criminals have been restrained from a repetition of their offences, while they were under a discipline which often issued in their permanent reformation. At the same time, the public burdens have been lessened, for the labor of the confined culprits overpaid all expenses, both of their maintenance and of the establishment." This good example, as in the case of the dispensary, was successfully followed by several of the states, and bids fair to become general throughout the United States.

Dr. Rush's philanthropy was manifested in his great zeal to repress the immoderate use of ardent spirits and of tobacco. His "Inquiry into the effects of ardent spirits upon the human body and mind," has been more read than any of his works. All the medical philosophy that was pertinent to the subject, was incorporated with it. Brilliant descriptions of the personal and family distress occasioned by that vice, and of its havoc on the minds, bodies and estates of its unhappy votaries, were given, and the means of prevention and cure pointed out. The whole was illustrated by a scale, graduated like a thermometer, showing at one view the effects of certain enumerated liquors on the body, the mind and the condition in society of those who are addicted to them. In the last year of Dr. Rush's life, he presented to the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, one thousand copies of this popular pamphlet, to be given away among the people of their respective congregations.\* About the same time that numerous and respectable body passed a resolution, enjoining on their members to exert themselves in counteracting this ruinous vice.

In his "Observations upon the influence of the habitual use of tobacco upon health, morals and property," our professor employed his eloquent pen in dissuading from practices which, though to a certain extent harmless, in-

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\* Many hundred thousand copies of this valuable tract have been distributed in the United States.

sensibly grow into habits productive of many unforeseen evils.

Dr. Rush was a great practical physician. In the treatment of diseases he was eminently successful, and in describing their symptoms and explaining their causes, he was uncommonly accurate. Nor is this matter of wonder, for he was minutely acquainted with the histories of diseases of all ages, countries and occupations. The annals of medicine cannot produce an account of any great epidemic disease, that has visited our earth in any age or country, which is more minute, accurate and completely satisfactory, than Dr. Rush's description of the yellow fever of 1793, in Philadelphia. Had he never wrote another line, this alone would have immortalized his name. He was a physician of no common cast. His prescriptions were not confined to doses of medicine, but to the regulation of the diet, air, dress, exercise and mental actions of his patients, so as to prevent disease, and to make healthy men and women from invalids. His preeminence as a physician, over so many of his contemporaries, arose from the following circumstances :

He carefully studied the climate in which he lived,\* and the symptoms of acute and chronic diseases therein prevalent, the different habits and constitutions of his patients, and varied his prescriptions with their strength, age and sex. He marked the influence of different seasons upon the same disease, and varied his practice accordingly. He observed and recorded the influence of successive epidemic diseases upon each other, and the hurtful as well as salutary effects of his remedies, and thereby acquired a knowledge of the character of the reigning disease, in every successive season. His notes and records of the diseases which have taken place in Philadelphia for the last forty-four years, must be of incalculable value to his son and successor. In attendance upon patients, Dr. Rush's manner was so gentle and sympathizing, that pain and distress were less poignant in his presence. On all occasions he exhibited the manners of a gentleman, and his conversation was sprightly, pleasant and instructive.† His letters were

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\* Dr. Rush's account of the climate of Pennsylvania, is a masterpiece of its kind. Every physician should write such a one of the country in which he practices, at least for his own use.

† The talent for conversation possessed by Dr. Rush was very impressive. Few men ever expressed themselves with more fluency or in a more agreeable manner.



peculiarly excellent ; for they were dictated by a feeling heart, and adorned with the effusions of a brilliant imagination. His correspondence was extensive and his letters numerous ; but every one of them, as far as can be known to an individual, contained something original, pleasant and sprightly. I can truly say that, in the course of thirty-five years' correspondence and friendly intercourse, I never received a letter from him without being delighted and improved, nor left his company without learning something. His observations were often original, and when otherwise, far from insipid : for he had an uncommon way of expressing common thoughts. He possessed in a high degree those talents which engage the heart. He took so lively an interest in every thing that concerned his pupils, that each of them believed himself to be a favorite, while his kind offices to all proved that he was the common friend and father of them all.

In lecturing to his class, Dr. Rush mingled the most abstruse investigation with the most agreeable eloquence ; the sprightliest sallies of imagination with the most profound disquisitions ; and the whole was enlivened with anecdotes, both pleasant and instructive. His language was simple and always intelligible, and his method so judicious, that a consistent view of the subject was communicated, and the recollection of the whole rendered easy. His lectures were originally written on leaves alternately blank. On the blank side he entered, from time to time, every new fact, idea, anecdote, or illustration, that he became possessed of, from any source whatever. In the course of about four years, the blank was generally so far filled up, that he found it expedient to make a new set of lectures. In this way he not only lightened the various subjects on which it was his province to instruct his class, but the light which he cast on them, for forty-four successive years, was continually brightening. The instructions he gave to his pupils by lectures, though highly valuable, were less so than the habits of thinking and observation he, in some degree, forced upon them. His constant aim was to rouse their minds from a passive to an

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It was in fact " a stream of mind," and his general knowledge enabled him to take part in the discussion of most subjects. The late Governor Brooks of Massachusetts, frequently mentioned with delight an interview which he enjoyed with him during the war of the revolution.

active state, so as to enable them to instruct themselves. Since the first institution of the medical school in Pennsylvania, its capital, Philadelphia, has been the very atmosphere of medicine, and that atmosphere has been constantly clearing from the fogs of error, and becoming more luminous from the successive and increasing diffusion of the light of truth. A portion of knowledge floated about that hallowed spot, which was imbibed by every student without his being conscious of it, and had an influence in giving to his mind a medical texture. To this happy state of things all the professors contributed. Drs. Wistar, Barton, Physick, Dorsey, Coxe and James, the survivors of that illustrious and meritorious body, will acknowledge that their colleague, Professor Rush, was not deficient in his quota.

We have hitherto viewed Dr. Rush as an author, a physician, a professor, and a philosopher ; let us now view him as a man. From him we may learn to be good as well as great. Such was the force of pious example and religious education in the first fifteen years of his life, that though he spent the ensuing nine in Philadelphia, Edinburgh, London and Paris, exposed to the manifold temptations which are inseparable from great cities, yet he returned, at the age of twenty-four, to his native country with the same purity of morals he brought with him from Nottingham, the country scene of his boyish years. The sneers of infidels ; the syren allurements of pleasure ; the fascinations of diversions, had no power to divert him from the correct principles and sober orderly habits which had been ingrafted on his mind in early youth. He came home from his travels with no excessive attachment but to his books ; no other ambition than that of being a great scholar ; and without any desire of making a stepping-stone of his talents and education, to procure for him the means of settling down in inglorious ease, without the farther cultivation and exertion of his talents. In a conversation which he held with the person who now addresses this audience, thirty-five years ago, Dr. Rush observed, that as he stepped from the ship that brought him home from Europe, he resolved that " no circumstance of personal charms, fortune or connexions should tempt him to perpetrate matrimony, his own phrase, till he had extended his studies so far that a family would be no impediment

to his farther progress.\* To this resolution of sacrificing every gratification to his love for learning, and his desire of making a distinguished figure in the republic of letters, he steadily adhered. For this he trimmed the midnight lamp : for this, though young, gay, elegant in person and manners, and possessed of the most insinuating address, he kept aloof from all scenes of dissipation, enervating pleasures and unprofitable company, however fashionable, and devoted himself exclusively to the cultivation of those powers which God had given him. In a letter which I received from him at an early period of my life, he describes his situation in the following forcible language : " Medicine is my wife ; science is my mistress ; books are my companions ; my study is my grave : there I lie buried, the world ' forgetting, by the world forgot. ' " From his early youth he thus resolved to be a great man, and a great man he became. Diligence conquers the hardest things. Intense desire of knowledge rarely fails of gaining its object. This laudable ambition was a security against vice and folly. It was also a fence placed round his virtues : but there was a stronger one ; an exalted sense of moral obligations, founded on the system of divine truth as revealed in the holy scriptures. Of this he gave a strong proof in the conformity of his life to the precepts of the gospel. For the scriptures he had the highest reverence, and often referred to them in his conversation and letters, and also in his lectures, and from them drew several ingenious illustrations of his medical opinions. Of the Philadelphia Bible Society he was vice president, and very active in the discharge of his duty. In the year 1791 he wrote an able defence of the use of the Bible as a school book. From these oracles of divine truth, he was taught that the individuals of the human race were all related to each other, as having a common Father and Redeemer, and, therefore, that the whole family of mankind should be embraced in the arms of an active benevolence. He was there also taught to reduce this divine principle to practice, by doing all in his power for the advancement of the happiness of his fellow men. To this, as we have

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\* Dr. Rush did not marry till he was thirty-two years of age. The rule he generally laid down was, that no female should marry before she was sixteen, nor male before he was twenty-one ; and the longer they both delayed matrimony after these periods the better ; provided the delay in a female did not exceed twenty-four, or in a male thirty.

seen, his whole life was devoted. His charities were great. In addition to ordinary contributions for the relief of distress, clergymen, widows and helpless women could always command his gratuitous professional services. It is not less true than strange, that he added to the list of his pensioners, the officers of our late revolutionary army. Here patriotism combined with benevolence ! He considered that a large debt of gratitude was due from their fellow citizens to these meritorious men. They had spent the most valuable part of their lives in securing the independence of their country, for which it had not made them adequate compensation. From these liberal views, he rarely charged any of them with the usual fees for his professional services.

Piety to God was an eminent trait in the character of Dr. Rush. In all his printed works, and in all his private transactions, he expressed the most profound respect and veneration for the great Eternal.\* At the close of his excellent observations on the pulmonary consumption, he observes, "I cannot conclude this inquiry without adding, that the author of it derived from his paternal ancestors a predisposition to the pulmonary consumption ; and that, between the eighteenth and forty-third year of his age, he has occasionally been afflicted with many of the symptoms of that disease, which he has described. By the constant and faithful use of many of the remedies which he has recommended, he now, in the sixty-first year of his age, enjoys nearly an uninterrupted exemption from pulmonary complaints. In humble gratitude, therefore, to that Being, who condescends to be called the 'preserver of men,' he thus publicly devotes this result of his experience and inquiries, to the benefit of such of his fellow creatures as may be afflicted with the same disease, sincerely wishing that they may be as useful to them as they have been to the author."

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\* His writings, in numerous places, bear testimony to his Christian virtues ; and in a manuscript letter, written a short time previous to his fatal illness, he candidly declared that he had "acquired and received nothing from the world which he so highly prized as the religious principles he received from his parents." It is peculiarly gratifying to observe a man so distinguished in a profession in which, by the illiberal, religious scepticism is supposed to abound, directing his talents to the maintenance of genuine piety, and the enforcing of Christian virtue. To inculcate those principles which flow from the source of all truth and purity, and to impart them as a legacy to his children, was an object dear to his heart and which he never failed to promote by constant exhortation and the powerful influence of his own example.—*Dr. D. Hosack.*

It was not only by words, but in deeds, that he expressed his reverence for the Deity. It was his usual practice to close the day by reading to his collected family a chapter in the Bible, and afterwards by addressing his Maker in prayer, devoutly acknowledging his goodness for favors received, and humbly imploring his continued protection and blessing. His respect for the Deity led him to respect his ministers, who acted consistently with their high calling. He considered their office of the greatest importance to society, both in this world and that which is to come. He strengthened their hands, and was always ready and willing to promote and encourage arrangements for their comfortable support, and for building churches, and for propagating the gospel. In an address to ministers of every denomination, on subjects interesting to morals, he remarks : " If there were no hereafter, individuals and societies would be great gainers by attending public worship every Sunday. Rest from labor in the house of God winds up the machine of both soul and body better than any thing else, and thereby invigorates it for the labors and duties of the ensuing week." Dr. Rush made his first essay as an author, when an apprentice to Dr. Redman, by writing an eulogy on the Rev. Gilbert Tennent, who had been the friend and fellow laborer of the celebrated George Whitfield, and an active, useful, animated preacher of the gospel, from 1725 till 1764. On the 27th of May, 1809, he wrote to his cousin, Dr. Finley, of this city : " The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church is now in session in Philadelphia. It is composed of many excellent men, some of whom are highly distinguished by talents and learning as well as piety. I have had some pleasant visits from a number of them, and have been amply rewarded for my civilities to them, by their agreeable and edifying conversation. They remind me of the happy times, when their places in the church were filled by your venerable father, and his illustrious contemporaries and friends, Messrs. Tennent, Blair, Davies and Rodgers."

In these and several other ways, particularly by his pen and his practice, Dr. Rush supported the cause of morality and religion in our country, and superadded the character of a Christian to that of a scholar. Such was the tenor of the life of our illustrious countryman, who is now no more ! No more the ornament of the first medical school

in America ! No more the instructor, the delight, and the admiration of that portion of our youth which is destined to take care of the healths and lives of their fellow citizens ! No more the medical luminary of our western world ! But he has not ceased to exist. His soul at this moment lives in some part of the universe ; and his body, though now mouldering in dust, Revelation assures us, at some future time will rise from the grave, and commence a new and immortal life. Let us therefore be comforted. Death is not an eternal sleep. Its effects are only temporary. In due time they will all be done away, as though they never had been. A reunion of his soul and body will constitute the same person, and the identical Dr. Rush, whom we this day lament as dead, will assuredly live again, and live forever and ever. In this world he sought for knowledge, as the thirsty traveller in a sandy desert seeks for water ; and in his course of nearly seventy years, he acquired an uncommon stock of it, and rejoiced in his success : but who can tell what will be the amount of his acquisitions and consequent pleasure in the ensuing seven hundred years, seven thousand, or if you please, seven millions of years, blest with the beatific vision of the omniscient God ? But I forbear, the mind sinks beneath the weight of the sublime and happy destinies of those who are the reconciled friends of " the God of Knowledge." — *Extracted from an Eulogium delivered before the Medical Society of South Carolina at Charleston, June 10th, 1813, by David Ramsay, M.D.*

An erroneous report respecting the last sickness of Dr. Rush having been propagated, Dr. James Mease with a view of correcting that report addressed the following letter to the late Dr. Lettsom, which was published in the London Medical and Physical Journal, Volume 37.

DEAR SIR, Philadelphia, December 21, 1815.

I had lately the pleasure to receive your " Notices of the late Dr. Rush," for which I thank you. I was much concerned, however, to find that you had given currency to the incorrect statement propagated after his death, " that he had mistaken his disease for the pleurisy, and was bled freely, which was thought to have occasioned his death." Your correspondent was unfortunately misled by common report, which is too often incorrect, and in the present instance this incorrectness is to be particularly

regretted, because it favors the diffusion of error, and implicates the medical judgment of a man, who was more extensively consulted by his countrymen than any other physician that ever lived in the United States ; and it gratifies the little and mean spirits among us, who exulted in the report of his having fallen a victim to his attachment to the depleting system, and who will be glad to find that the report has been circulated in Europe. Dr. Rush was not affected with "typhus or spotted fever," but a true pleurisy; and the blood, so far from being "freely" taken, amounted only to ten ounces in quantity. More was not taken away, except locally, although the pain in his side, after having been relieved by the operation, returned with severity : and the disease ended as inflammatory affections of the lungs often do, in such habits as that of Dr. Rush. The case was strictly as follows. Dr. Rush in the early part of his life had been subject to a cough, which he kept under by occasional small bleedings, great temperance in diet, and by a careful accommodation of his dress to our inconstant climate. He had been attacked by a cough several months previously to his last illness, and in consequence of it he had abridged his customary proportion of animal food, in the use of which he was at all times very moderate, and left off entirely the use of wine. The effects of those retrenchments alone, are felt by frames more vigorous than that of Dr. Rush ; but in his case, and at his time of life, they could not fail greatly to diminish his muscular power, and increase the excitability of his system by the causes that produced the fatal disease. Other causes coöperated. During the time alluded to he was engaged in extensive practice ; had performed his four months tour of duty at the Pennsylvania Hospital, and at the close of the session in March had given two lectures daily, of an hour each ; he had also assisted in the examination of a large class of candidates for medical degrees in the University of Pennsylvania, twice a day ; and at night he either was engaged in study, or in answering the numerous letters of applicants for medical advice from every part of the continent. Thus, by such unremitting corporal and mental exertion he wasted the powers of life, and predisposed his system to the operation of the variable atmosphere that caused the affection of his lungs. He was attacked by his last illness on the night of the 14th of April, 1813. I had been absent from the city ; and on my

return called to see him in the evening. I found him alone, with a lecture before him, and a pen in his hand. Having before hinted to him that he ought to relax in his studies, I said "what, Doctor, always at your studies?" He replied, "Yes, Doctor, I am revising a lecture, for I feel every day more and more like a dying man." Alas, how prophetic his words! Upon my observing that I hoped he did not feel indisposed, he replied, "No, but at my age I deem life particularly precarious, and I am moreover anxious to leave my manuscripts as perfect as possible for the benefit of my son." We conversed for an hour or more upon various medical subjects, and he read to me an affectionate letter addressed to a relation in a distant state, who had asked his advice upon an important occasion. A person having called for a letter of advice, I retired to another room, where I remained near an hour with his family. Upon my returning to him, I found him sitting with his feet close to the fire, and, after a moment's stay, I wished him good night. Mrs. Rush came in, as I went out, and I subjoin her own statement of the progress of the attack, and the remedies used. This statement was drawn up at my request, that there might be no doubt as to the accuracy of every particular on the distressing subject.

"At nine o'clock in the evening of Wednesday the 14th of April, 1813, Dr. Rush, after having been as well as usual through the day, complained of chilliness and general indisposition, and said he would go to bed. While his room was preparing and a fire making, he became so cold, that he called for some brandy and drank it; he then went to his room, bathed his feet in warm water, got into a warm bed, and took some hot drink: a fever soon came on, attended with great pain in his limbs, and in his side: he passed a restless night, but after day-light a perspiration came on, and all the pains were relieved except that in his side, which became more acute. He sent for a bleeder, and had ten ounces of blood taken from his arm, with evident relief. At ten o'clock Dr. Dorsey called and saw him, heard what had been done, and approved of the treatment; observed that his pulse was calm, but rather weak, and advised him to drink plentifully of wine whey, which was immediately given to him. He remained the rest of the day and on Friday with but little apparent disease, though never quite free from fever, and always complaining when he tried to take a long breath. On the morning



of Saturday he awoke with an acute pain in his side, and desired that the bleeder might be sent for : to this I objected on account of the weak state of his pulse. I proposed sending for Dr. Dorsey, but Dr. Rush would not consent to his being disturbed : he reminded me of his having had a cough all the winter, and said 'this disease is taking hold of my lungs, and I shall go off in a consumption.' At eight o'clock Dr. Dorsey saw him and, upon feeling his pulse, objected to his losing any more blood, and called in Dr. Physick, who agreed in the opinion that bleeding was improper. The pain in his side, however, continuing, and his breathing becoming more difficult, Dr. P. consented to his losing three ounces of blood from his side by cupping : this operation relieved him so that he fell into a refreshing sleep, and towards the evening of Saturday his fever went off, and he passed a comfortable night, and on Sunday morning seemed free from disease. When Dr. P. saw him, he told me that Dr. Rush was doing well, that nothing now appeared necessary, but to give him as much nourishment, as he could take : he drank porter and water, and conversed with strength and sprightliness, believing that he was getting well, until about four o'clock in the afternoon, when his fever returned, but in a moderate degree. At five o'clock Dr. P. and Dr. D. visited him, and found him not so well as in the morning, but did not appear to apprehend what so soon followed, for at that time nothing was ordered different from the morning. At nine o'clock they again visited him, when they found him so low, as to apprehend a fatal termination of his disease. Stimulants of the strongest kind were then administered : you, my friend, know with how little effect !"

I was constantly with Dr. Rush all the next day, and witnessed the progress of that debility which deprived me of my friend, the medical republic of its ornament, and our country of one of its best men, and the early, steady and zealous supporter of American independence.

JAMES MEASE.

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM, M.D., F.R.S., &c. London.

Dr. Rush, says Dr. James Mease, was an early and powerful enemy to the slavery of the blacks, and so early as the year 1774 published a pamphlet against it, and he had the satisfaction to see a law passed in the year 1780 by the

legislature of Pennsylvania abolishing the privilege of holding any blacks in slavery after a residence of a certain number of months ; and he lived to see the slaves in Philadelphia diminished from 3144, the number of them when Dr. R. wrote, to two aged individuals, who were supported by the families in which they were born. The effect of his writings was visible on the public at large, by the great number of slaves who were set free in the course of a few years. His friendship for the colored part of the community, and his endeavor to improve their moral condition induced him to propose the establishment of the first place of public worship exclusively for themselves. This was in the year 1792. He headed the subscription, and through his interest and persuasion a sufficient fund was obtained to erect the building, now called St. Thomas's Church. He left the choice of the mode of worship with themselves. They chose the Episcopal form. This church has been attended with the most evident good effect upon the colored population. The ministers are colored men, but are relieved by the ministers of the other Episcopal churches.

In the year 1808 Dr. R. zealously engaged with Mr. Robert Ralston in the formation of the first Bible Society which was formed in Philadelphia, and wrote a constitution for its use. Dr. R. had much of the milk of human kindness in the composition of his mind ; hence he readily forgave injuries, and the ingratitude of those on whom he had conferred favors.

A striking proof of his benevolence was exhibited in the decided part he took in the years 1784 and 1785, in procuring the repeal of the Test Act of the state of Pennsylvania. This law was passed in the year 1778, and required every citizen to declare the right of the state to be independent, and that he had not since the declaration of independence aided the British arms in their claims upon the United States. It also required him to renounce allegiance to the king of England. The penalty for refusing to take this oath or affirmation was disfranchisement ; and as the continuance of the law was deemed impolitic from the return of peace and from its depriving the country of the public services of a large portion of our fellow citizens who from conscientious motives had declined to take the oath, he urged its repeal, which soon after took place, but not without great opposition. The pamphlet passed

through two large editions, a circumstance which had not for a long time happened to any other American production.

He had commenced the undertaking of selecting some of the best practical works on medicine for republication in America, and in order to render them more useful, he formed the idea of adding to them such notes as might better adapt them to the diseases of his own country. His editions of Sydenham and of Cleghorn were published in 1809, and in the same year appeared those of Pringle and Hillary. The last effort of his pen was a letter on Hydrophobia containing additional reasons in support of the theory he had formerly advanced, as to the seat of the disease being chiefly in the blood vessels. It was addressed to Dr. Hosack and written not many days before his fatal illness. Such was the attachment of Dr. R. to his profession, that speaking of his approaching dissolution he remarks, "when that time shall come, I shall relinquish many attractions to life, and among them a pleasure which to me has no equal in human pursuits ; I mean that which I derive from studying, teaching, and practising medicine.\*"

In January, 1776, he married Miss Julia Stockton, daughter of the Hon. Judge Stockton, of New-Jersey, a lady of an excellent understanding, and whose amiable disposition and cultivated mind eminently qualified her as the companion of Dr. Rush. Thirteen children were the fruits of their marriage, nine of whom still survive. One of these sustains the high office of secretary of the treasury of the United States.

The writings of Dr. R. claim our attention, both on account of their extent and their variety ; from the results of his own individual experience and observation, he added more facts to the science of medicine, than all who had preceded him in his native country. His description of diseases, for minuteness and accuracy of detail, cannot be exceeded, and may safely be regarded as models of their kind. His volume on Diseases of the Mind, in as far as it exhibits the infinitely varied forms which those diseases assume, is a store house of instruction. Had his labors been limited to these subjects alone, his character would deservedly have been cherished by future ages. The respect and consideration which his publications procured

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\* Dr. Hosack.

for him among his contemporaries, was such, that the highest honors were accumulated upon him in different parts of Europe, as well as in his own country, and he was admitted a member of many of the most distinguished literary and philosophical associations.

To the preceding account of Dr. Rush, chiefly from the excellent Dr. Ramsay, the following additions made touching his character and attainments, are extracted from the opening discourse delivered by Professor Francis, before the class of students attending the instruction of the Rutger's Medical Faculty of Geneva College, in the city of New-York, November 8th, 1827.

"It were no easy task," says Professor Francis, "to do justice to the great talents, the vast labors, and the exemplary character of Dr. Rush. From the imperfect sketch which I have thus rapidly given, it is presumed you may be able to form some idea of his incessant devotedness to the improvement of that profession of which he was so bright an ornament. His merits as a practitioner are too well known to require particular enumeration. He was fully aware of the great responsibility attached to the medical character, and uniformly evinced the deepest solicitude for the recovery of his patient. His kindness and liberality in imparting aid to those from whom no remuneration was ever to be expected was unbounded, and arose from the generous impulse of his nature, the cordial concern he felt in whatever affected the interests of his fellow creatures. 'Let the poor of every description,' says he, 'be the objects of your peculiar care.' 'There is an inseparable connexion between a man's duty and his interest. Whenever you are called, therefore, to visit a poor patient, imagine you hear the voice of the good Samaritan sounding in your ears, 'Take care of him and I will repay thee.'"

"His mind was of a superior order : to a perception naturally ready and acute, he united a discriminating judgment, a retentive memory, which was greatly improved by habits of close attention, a brilliant imagination and a highly cultivated taste. He possessed a comprehensive understanding : his knowledge was varied and in many branches profound, and he eminently excelled in the several departments of his profession. In his assiduity and perseverance in the acquisition of knowledge he had no superior and few equals. Accustomed to constant and regular exercise

his intellectual powers acquired additional vigor from employment. Notwithstanding the great fatigue he had to undergo in the discharge of the practical duties of a laborious profession, and the constant interruptions to which he was exposed, when engaged in his pursuits as an author, he never for a moment abated of his ardor in the cause of science. He was the incessant and unwearied student ; he was familiar with all the standard authors, and his reading kept pace with the discoveries and improvements of the age. That the same individual should be at the same time at the head of medical practice in a large and populous city, that he should have been the first of medical teachers in a great University, and the most assiduous prescriber for its extensive hospitals ; that he should possess a leading influence among its numerous literary institutions and public charities, and be moreover among the most voluminous and able writers of the time, and all, amidst the active competition of numerous rivals of high and varied pretensions, is only to be accounted for by his habits of vigorous and unremitted application. What the biographer of the illustrious Roman orator has asserted of his hero, may be said with equal justice of our countryman : ‘ His industry,’ says Middleton, ‘ was incredible beyond the example or even conception of our days : this was the secret by which he performed such wonders, and reconciled perpetual study with perpetual affairs : he suffered no part of his leisure to be idle, or the least interval of it to be unimproved ; but what other people gave to the public shows, to pleasure, to feasts, nay even to sleep and the ordinary refreshments of nature, he generally gave to his books, and the enlargement of his knowledge.’ And what Cicero himself has declared of the excellence of study seems to have early directed the conduct of Dr. Rush himself. ‘ Study employs us in youth, amuses us in old age, graces and embellishes prosperity, shelters and supports adversity, makes us delighted at home and easy abroad, softens slumber, shortens fatigue, and enlivens retirement.’

“ His habits of punctuality to every kind of business in which he was employed were the subject of general encomium. Thus, while under the pupilage of Dr. Redman, during the whole six years he could not enumerate more than two days interruption from business, and we are told that as a physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital he was never known to vary ten minutes in his professional ap-

pointments from the hour of attendance, for the long period of thirty years. This punctuality, added to a judicious arrangement of time for his multifarious occupations, secured to him sufficient leisure for the publication of those works which have given such celebrity to his name.

"His writings," continues Dr. Francis, "claim our attention both on account of their extent and their variety. It was for the purpose of setting this fact clearly before you that I was the more particular in my enumeration of them. These products of his intellect show much reading, deep investigation and tried experience. He seems to have combined with peculiar felicity the most useful in physical science with the most elegant in literature. Instead of being a mere collator of the opinions of others, he was constantly making discoveries and improvements of his own, and from the results of his individual experience and observation, established more principles and added more facts to the science of medicine than all who had preceded him in his native country. His description of diseases for minuteness and accuracy of detail cannot be exceeded, and may safely be regarded as models of their kind. In the treatment of gout, dropsy, consumption of the lungs, and the diseases of old age, he has enlarged our views of the animal economy and thrown more light upon the peculiar character of these afflicting disorders than is to be derived from the investigations of any other writers. What vast and widely applicable principles has he given in that small but pregnant essay, entitled *A Defence of Bloodletting* ? His volume on the *Diseases of the Mind*, in as far as it exhibits the infinitely varied forms which those disorders present, is a storehouse of instruction. The great demand for this work caused its early reprint. By metaphysicians it has been recognised as furnishing many valuable facts and principles on the pathology and functions of the brain ; and as presenting an able classification of the phenomena of its disease. During my casual attendance upon the lectures of the late Professor Brown, of Edinburgh, the distinguished physiologist of the intellectual powers, and the successor of Dugald Stewart in the metaphysical chair, my national feelings were largely gratified, by hearing from such high authority this treatise of Dr. Rush pronounced a work full of instruction and of great originality. Had his labors been limited to these subjects alone, his character would deservedly have been cherished by

future ages. His reputation, however, will permanently depend upon his several histories of the epidemics of the United States, which have rendered these productions familiar wherever medical science is cultivated, and will hereafter cause to be inscribed upon the same imperishable column that bears testimony to the merits of Sydenham and Boerhaave, the illustrious name of Benjamin Rush. The respect and consideration which his publications procured for him among his contemporaries, were such that the highest honors were accumulated upon him in different parts of Europe, as well as in his own country, and he was admitted a member of many of the most distinguished literary and philosophical associations of both worlds."

After noticing some of the peculiarities in the character and writings of the American Sydenham, as Dr. Rush has been often called by sound authority, Professor Francis proceeds :

" Exalted as was the character of Dr. Rush, immense as were the services he rendered his countrymen, few professional men of any age or country have been the subject of more violent and unrelenting persecution. His great eminence rendered him the object at which envy, jealousy and disappointed ambition directed their malign efforts. So great was the persecution against him at one time, even after he had arrived at the maturity of his renown, that he contemplated removing himself and family from Philadelphia, the scene of his meritorious exertions. The notorious Cobbett assailed him with all the spirit and all the force of his vituperative genius. Against this libeller he was induced by the urgency of friends to institute a prosecution ; a jury of his countrymen awarded to him a large sum for damages. This award, with his characteristic magnanimity, he distributed to the poor. Though moderate in his pecuniary circumstances, and looked up to by a large family, he never yielded to the sordid impulses of our nature.

" There are other qualities which entitle Dr. Rush to our respect and esteem. In private life his disposition and deportment were in the highest degree exemplary. Admired and courted for his intellectual endowments, he riveted the affections of all those who enjoyed the pleasure of an intimate acquaintance. The affability of his manners, the amiableness of his temper, and the benevolence of his character were ever conspicuous. He was ardent in

his friendships, and forgiving in his resentments ; and yet entertaining a due regard for himself and a nice sense of honor, he possessed a manly independence of spirit, which disdained every thing mean and servile. He had an extraordinary command of language and always imparted his thoughts in a peculiarly impressive and eloquent manner. His eloquence as a public teacher surpassed that of all his contemporaries. The youth who repaired to his lectures for wisdom, insensible of the lapse of time, lingered with rapture on his lessons.

“ Those who had the happiness to experience the delights of his conversation will long recollect with pleasure, his unassuming modesty, and the rich stores of knowledge he poured forth on the most instructive topics. Even when his opinions were solicited, they were given not as the dictates or admonitions of a superior, but as the kind advice of a friend and equal. He never evinced any of that haughtiness and affectation of importance which sometimes attach to men of eminence, and which so materially lessen the pleasures and comforts of social life.

“ He was a believer in christianity,” continues Dr. F., “ from an examination of its principles and the deepest conviction. The purity of its doctrines and the excellence of its precepts were a frequent topic of his conversation : its practical influence upon his conduct through life he often acknowledged, and cherished with a fervent hope, the animating prospects it affords. With the good old Bishop Burnet he fully coincided, ‘ that a man living according to the rules of religion, becomes the wisest, the best, the happiest creature he is capable of being.’\* His writings in numerous places bear testimony to his christian virtues ; he designed to conclude his literary and professional labors with a distinct work on the medicine of the Bible ; and in a letter written a short time before his fatal illness he candidly declares, that he had acquired and received nothing from the world which he so highly prized as the religious principles he received from his parents. It is peculiarly gratifying to observe a man so distinguished in a profession in which by the illiberal religious scepticism is supposed to abound, directing his talents to the maintenance of genuine piety and the enforcing of christian virtue. To inculcate those principles which flow from the

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\* History of My Own Times.



source of all truth and purity, and to impart them as a legacy to his children, was an object dear to his heart, and which he never failed to promote by constant exhortation and the powerful influence of his own example.

“ Let our youth then be excited by the powerful example of Dr. Rush to form an exalted opinion of the dignity and usefulness of the profession, and let them support that dignity and exemplify that usefulness by the same active exertions in the cause of science and humanity, that have characterized this able and learned physician.

“ Such, gentlemen, was the man whose character I have feebly attempted to delineate. But he has a still further claim upon your gratitude. His name is enrolled on the charter of your independence among the heroes of that revolutionary contest in which our ancestors pledged their lives and fortunes in behalf of their bleeding country. While a youth he caught the ennobling spirit of patriotism and through life cherished those feelings which are consecrated to its interests and glory.”

For further particulars of the life and character of this eminent philanthropist and physician, consult Chalmers' Biography, Life in Rees' Cyclopedia, Hosack's Introductory Discourse, New-England Medical Journal, Life in American Medical and Philosophical Register.

**SALTONSTALL, NATHANIEL, M.M.S.S.** This name was held in high respect both in England and the American colonies for many years prior to the separation. They who bore it, sustained honorable offices both in church and state under the crown, and were greatly distinguished for their loyalty, their patriotism and their piety ; the noblest qualities of the human character seemed to be inherent in the family for several generations. The subject of this memoir was born in Haverhill, Massachusetts, February 10th, 1746, and was graduated at Harvard College in 1766, and died in May, 1815. He was a son of Richard Saltonstall, formerly Judge of the Supreme Court, and a descendant of Sir Richard Saltonstall, one of the original patentees and first settlers of Massachusetts colony. Among his maternal ancestors were Governor Leverett, and the two Elisha Cooks, father and son, both respectable as physicians, but most distinguished as political leaders.

Dr. Saltonstall was a very skilful and intelligent physician, remarkable for his humane attention to the poor, and

universally respected in Haverhill, where he resided, and in the vicinity which was embraced in the circle of his professional business. He was named in the charter incorporating the Massachusetts Medical Society, and was a friend to its improvement and usefulness. The objects of his exertions were usefulness in his profession, and the happiness and improvement of those around him, unalloyed by motives of pecuniary advantage. He was a sincere, liberal and humble christian. He felt an ardent attachment to those venerable religious and literary institutions in the establishment of which his ancestors had an important influence, particularly to Harvard College, in whose growing prosperity he rejoiced ; and he was ever ready to promote all objects which in his opinion would have a beneficial influence on society.

At a time when his brothers remained true to those principles of royalty in which they had been educated, he was firm, but moderate, in his opposition to the measures of Great Britain. It was to him a severe trial, and he gave the strongest proof of sincerity and independence ; his principles separated him forever from those he most loved. In later party contentions he was unwavering, and no man in the country felt a more lively interest in its honor and welfare. Exemplary in all the relations of private life, of irreproachable morals, social, benevolent, cheerful and hospitable, he was tenderly beloved by his family and friends, and was honored by the affectionate esteem and respect of all who knew him. Of the purity of Dr. S.'s principles and the honorable independence of his character, of his elevated integrity, his love of truth, his generous, noble and affectionate spirit, more might be said with propriety. As a mark of respect to his virtues and character, all the citizens of Haverhill, without previous concert, closed their stores and suspended business to attend the funeral obsequies. Dr. S. left three sons and four daughters, the only family of the name in Massachusetts.

SAWYER, MICAHAH, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born at Newbury, in the county of Essex and Province of Massachusetts, on the 15th day of July, 1737. His father was a respectable physician in the same place ; and indeed he may be said to have been of a medical family, for of his only two brothers one was a physician, and the other a druggist and apothecary.

He was graduated at Harvard College in 1756, and, after pursuing his professional studies under his father, commenced the practice in that part of Newbury which was soon afterwards made a distinct town with the name of Newburyport. He had contemplated with much pleasure a visit to Europe to complete his education in the medical schools most celebrated there, but he was compelled by circumstances to relinquish that project. It was then his constant aim to compensate as much as was in his power this disappointment, by laborious research, unwearied assiduity and diligent application to the most approved European medical publications. When he commenced practice, his qualifications were not surpassed by any young man of his time. About this period he made a journey on horseback to Charleston, South Carolina, in company with his friend, the late Hon. Jonathan Jackson, afterwards distinguished in several stations, all of which he honored, and the last of which was that of treasurer of Harvard College, which he held at his death in 1810. In this tour he made many respectable acquaintances, and its incidents furnished him topics for the entertainment of his friends in after life. Such a journey at that time was considered as an affair of no small importance. Perhaps a voyage across the Atlantic, and years of travel in Europe would not at this time seem a greater enterprise.

Soon after entering upon the practice of his profession Dr. Sawyer connected himself in marriage with Miss S. Farnham, daughter of Daniel Farnham, Esq. a lawyer of eminence in Newburyport, by whom he had nine children, four of whom survive, and the respected relict at the age of fourscore years still enjoys much of life.

It was not long after his settlement in Newburyport when Dr. S. found himself engaged in a full career of professional business, embracing a large district of country ; and being blessed with an excellent constitution, and warmly attached to his profession, he shrunk not from the unremitted duties required of him for a period of fifty years. Clinical medicine being his choice, he was more distinguished as a physician than as a surgeon, though on certain occasions he performed surgical operations with firmness, neatness and skill. He wrote but little for publication ; which is to be regretted, as he possessed strong powers of thought and expression, and was a lover of literature and science. He was not, however, an inactive

member of the many benevolent and literary societies to which he belonged. He always declined being introduced to public life, but no man's opinions and judgment were more decisive and influential in the sphere in which he moved. He was a zealous advocate of the great principles that led to the revolutionary struggle.

Dr. S. was strictly a religious man in life and practice, but without a shade of bigotry. His own standard of religion and morals was a high one ; severe, however, only to himself, he was liberal and candid in his construction of the motives and opinions of others. His health was almost uninterrupted to the last years of his life, and to within about three months of his decease. He had the happiness to carry the fine sensibilities of his affectionate nature and the vigor of his intellect, to the closing days of his life, which terminated on the 29th of September, 1815, in his 78th year.

Dr. S. was much beloved by his friends, and he had no enemies. Inheriting a considerable patrimony, and deriving a good income from his extensive practice, he lived in the exercise of a judicious economy, and in the enjoyment of a competency of the good things of this life, leaving at his decease to his family an estate much larger than generally falls to the lot of physicians in this country. Dr. S. received the honorary degree of M.D. from the University in Cambridge ; and he was named an original member in the charters of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

The obituary notice of the day speaks of Dr. S. in the following language. He was an eminent, learned, most faithful and tender physician ; a devout and exemplary christian, a benevolent and upright man, and valuable member of society. With superior natural powers improved by the advantages of education, and adorned by an habitual dignity and politeness of manners, he pursued his arduous profession for more than half a century in full practice and with such skill, fidelity and affectionate kindness, that his ordinary discharge of professional duty was a constant benefaction to those who were the objects of his care. The same exalted sense of integrity and faithfulness which dignified his professional conduct, accompanied him in all the relations which he sustained in social and civil life, and rendered him a blessing and ornament

to the various literary and benevolent institutions with which he was connected.

The funeral solemnities were performed with every mark of public regard and sympathy. The masters of Dummer Academy, whose interest the deceased had many years essentially promoted as a trustee and treasurer, the trustees of the Merrimac Humane Society, over which he had presided from its establishment, with a concourse of respectable citizens, united in paying their best tribute of respect on the solemn occasion.

SENDER, ISAAC, M.D. M.M.S.S. Hon., was descended from a respectable family in New-Hampshire, and became an inhabitant of Newport, Rhode Island, early in life, where he read medicine with Dr. Thomas Moffat, a Scotch physician of eminence. He was surgeon for some time in the revolutionary war, and accompanied General Arnold in his expedition through the wilderness to Quebec in 1775, a very interesting account of which was prepared by him for the press and is now in the possession of his family. After the war he settled in Newport, and married Miss Arnold of Pawtuxet; and being successor to Dr. Hunter in high professional reputation, as well as to place of residence, he became the most distinguished practitioner both of physic and surgery that the state could in his day boast of.

Ardently attached to his profession, his energetic mind was directed exclusively to its interests, in relieving the sick and in enriching the medical journals of his day with the results of his observations. One communication among others, which will serve to perpetuate his memory, was the history of a case of erratic urine, which has been often referred to in other publications both in this country and in Europe. Dr. Senter published in the Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, remarks on Phthisis Pulmonalis, in which he gives an account of a remedy which was a favorite with him, though it originated with English physicians; it consists in the exhibition of what is termed the dry vomit, composed of the sulphate of copper and ipecacuanha. He affirmed that he had restored more persons laboring under hectic fever by this remedy, conjoined with Dr. Griffith's myrrh and steel mixture, than by all other medicines he ever read of or tried.

He was eminently qualified for his profession, not only by the acuteness of his discernment, the accuracy of his opinions, his decision and judgment ; but by a choice of the most instructive books, an extensive correspondence and great experience. He gratuitously afforded his prompt, vigilant and patient attention to the clergymen of his town, when affliction and disease visited them or their families ; and such was the general confidence in his skill, and such his generous and humane spirit, that hundreds are indebted to him for acts of kindness and liberality.

He was elected an honorary member of the Medical and Chirurgical Societies of Edinburgh and London, and an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society ; and he was for many years President of the Society of Cincinnati of Rhode Island.

Though singular in his opinions on religious subjects, he was behind no one in the practice of the christian virtues, of philanthropy and beneficence, and especially in the walks of his profession. His person was tall and well proportioned, and his manners dignified and popular. He died in December, 1799, in the 45th year of his age.

SHATTUCK, DR. BENJAMIN, was born at Littleton, in the county of Middlesex, on the 11th day of November, 1742. He was the son of Stephen Shattuck, a man of no ordinary powers of body and mind ; a warm patriot, who, after he was turned of sixty years of age, shouldered his gun, and marched to Concord, on the 19th of April, 1775, to share in the danger of that eventful day.

His grandfather was the Rev. Benjamin Shattuck, the first settled minister of the town of Littleton, who was graduated at Harvard College with the class of 1709, and was held in high estimation as a good sound divine of the old New-England school. He married a granddaughter of the celebrated John Sherman, who, on coming from England, was for some time an assistant to George Phillips, the first minister at Watertown.

From Massachusetts he went to Connecticut, and there acted in the capacity of a magistrate ; but, when Mr. Phillips died, the flock at Watertown earnestly requested him to return to his first love, and he obeyed the call. Sherman was not only a divine of the first " gifts and graces," but also a profound metaphysician, and was exceeded by few in the country as a mathematician. He published an almanack for several years in succession, the first work of

the kind in New-England, and often went to Cambridge to deliver lectures upon philosophical subjects. He was not only in advance of the times in which he lived in the sciences, but his literary acquirements were equal to his other attainments. He calculated eclipses, fixed the latitude and longitude of places, drew up codes of laws, all with equal facility, and at the same time preached to admiration.

His name may be mentioned as a proof that a family does not much retard the progress of the learned, for he had six children by one wife, and twenty by another, and they were among the best educated of the land, and their descendants have, in a great measure, inherited their taste and talents. Roger Sherman, a Judge of the highest courts in Connecticut, and one of the signers of the declaration of independence, was a great grandson of the minister at Watertown. The clergy, who are always respected in an enlightened community, were in the early days of our history the great men in every concern; and to them we are much indebted for the institutions of piety and learning which abound in our country. They gave their children a good education, and considered it the best patrimony they could bestow. This fixed the permanent principles of a free government, which is for ages to hold its empire over a mighty people.

Dr. Shattuck was prepared to enter college in his native place, by Dummer Rogers, son of the clergyman at Littleton. While at Cambridge, Shattuck was considered a young man of a good capacity, a hard student, with an original cast of thought, which sometimes, to common observers, appeared like eccentricity. It was then a period remarkable for boldness of thinking, and freedom in the expression of liberal opinions on great national questions. The spirit of liberty has often been first invoked in the groves of learning. The sacred flame which was soon to burn through the land and warm every breast, was frequently seen at that time to flash and brighten in the halls of Harvard. Among those whose observations are remembered by the few surviving students of that time, Dr. Shattuck holds a distinguished rank. In questions of philosophy as well as of government, he was one of the pioneers in liberal discussion. On leaving college in 1765 he went to reside at Groton, to pursue the study of surgery and medicine with Dr. Prescott, an eminent physician, a man of great urbanity, and popular,

not only in his profession, but as a judge of probate for the county of Middlesex. From Groton he went to Templeton, in the county of Worcester, to commence practice. The practitioner of the present day, with all the lights of the last half century about him, can hardly understand how much his predecessors suffered for want of books, instruments, and all the facilities which are at the command of the modern physician and surgeon; but their sagacity, careful watchings, perseverance and tact, often more than supplied the place of books and systems. Nature is generally communicative and kind to those devoted to her laws and suggestions, and not unfrequently her simple inspirations are more efficacious than abstruse theories however ingenious. Disease has often yielded to the anxious watcher and careful nurse, when science, proud of her knowledge, might have prescribed in vain.

The place which Dr. Shattuck chose for the field of his exertions, was a new settlement, with but few inhabitants. The population increased but slowly in the new corporations until after the peace of 1763. Then Indian warfare was no longer to be dreaded, and the hardy sons of the colonies made rapid strides in cultivating the soil, to which the children of the forest had given up all claim, and had abandoned in their peaceful wanderings. Dr. Shattuck thought, and his visions were more than realized, that by the time his children had grown up, there would be a comparatively dense population around him. With these hopes his professional duties began. The life of a physician who has business, and with it entertains a high sense of his responsibility, is always an arduous one; but few can imagine the severity of his labors, who maintains a considerable celebrity in a new and thinly settled country.

For twenty-four years Dr. Shattuck continued his labors in the county of Worcester and the neighboring counties, until his strength sunk under his efforts. It is seldom that any constitution is proof against such severe duties, continued for any length of time. He died of a pulmonary complaint in the year 1794. His mind continued bright and active until the last moments of his life. He reasoned and judged upon his own case with the calmness of one not interested in the event, and named to his medical friends with prescient accuracy the number of hours the mortal machine would by the common course of na-



ture continue its functions. Dr. Shattuck died at that time of life when the faculties of men reach their highest point, when opinions have been tested by experiment, and original thoughts are arranged and incorporated with settled axioms.

Those who lived with him and were the best judges of his talents and acquirements, uniformly agree that no physician at that time was more acute in discovering the seat and causes of a disease than Dr. Shattuck. To quick discernment was added a patience in investigating all the circumstances relating to the subject under consideration, which naturally led to correct views and happy results.

His knowledge was considerable, but his wisdom was superior to his knowledge. He knew much of the thoughts of other men, but was governed by a system formed from his own. He hailed with delight the works of Cullen and other distinguished lights in his profession, but received their opinions as intellectual food for digestion, rather than as absolute guides of his own practice. While he was systematic in his course of examining, reasoning, judging and acting, he was not, like many, wedded to systems and theories; but subjected them to an enlightened supervision and examination. With his reputation it is not singular that he was often consulted by his professional brethren in stubborn cases, and his judgment was considered as the "*ultima ratio medici*" for their patients. There were several physicians about him highly respectable in their day and generation, who were on most friendly terms with him, and who, years after he was gone, bore testimony to the soundness of his judgment and the success of his practice. Drs. Foxcroft, Atherton and Frink were among the number; all men of distinction in their profession.

His death was deeply lamented by the whole community to which he was known; but this loss was more poignantly felt by his townsmen, the people of Templeton. He had settled with them by invitation, had lived in their affection and confidence for nearly a quarter of a century, and had identified himself with their joys and sorrows. At his funeral all classes crowded around his bier to pay the last sad and mournful tribute of respect to their physician and friend. The pious pastor of the flock poured out his heart in an honest eulogy, in commemoration of his virtues, and spoke of the "sense, skill and philan-

thropy" of their departed physician and friend. This was said in the presence of those who knew the deceased, and knew too that the words flowed in truth and sincerity : such praises from the mouth of discriminating affection, have a lasting unction in them, and are sweet in the remembrance of ages, when the cold stone and the proud entablature are defaced or forgotten.

Soon after Dr. Shattuck settled in Templeton he married Lucy Barron, the daughter of a brave Provincial officer, who fell in Johnson's Fight, as the memorable battle of the eighth of September, 1755, was called. She was a woman precisely fitted for her situation, endowed with hereditary and constitutional firmness. She was an honor to her husband, and a blessing to her children through her life, which was, happily for the latter, protracted till within a few years past. She was left with six children at the decease of her husband, two of whom soon followed him, and the youngest is now a distinguished physician in full practice in the city of Boston.

SHIPPEN, DR. WILLIAM, Sen. This worthy and excellent man was descended from an ancient and respectable English family, which emigrated to this country on account of religious persecution, first to Massachusetts, and then for the same cause to Pennsylvania, soon after its settlement by William Penn. He was born in Philadelphia on the 1st of October, 1712. He applied himself early in life to the study of medicine, for which he had a remarkable genius, possessing that kind of intuitive knowledge of diseases which cannot be acquired from books. In his practice he was uncommonly successful, by which means he soon rose to very high reputation and extensive business, which he retained to an advanced age.

But, in his long journey through life, Dr. Shippen did not confine his useful labors to the duties of his profession. The institutions of learning and benevolence were the objects of his care and liberal patronage. He was one of the founders, and during the greatest part of his life a trustee of the College of New-Jersey, towards the establishment and support of which he contributed largely by liberal donations and by bequeathing it a considerable perpetual annuity. He was a trustee of the College of Philadelphia, a vice-president of the Philosophical Society of that city, and the first Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital, which charity owes much of its usefulness to

his long continued medical services and frequent benefactions.

Dr. S. was a friend of liberty and his country. At an advanced age he was chosen a member of the Congress of the United States, where he proved himself to be an excellent and well-informed patriot, and in the evening of life he continued to rejoice in the prosperity of his country and the stability of her republican institutions.

To the poor of every denomination his professional aid was at all times freely rendered ; and so well known were his ability and integrity that he was appointed guardian of the estates of many widows and orphans, to the poor of which class he left a considerable legacy.

But what is still more to the honor of Dr. Shippen, he was the friend of religion. His hospitable doors were always open to the ministers of the gospel, and he enjoyed a large share of the friendship and confidence of the celebrated Mr. Whitefield. He was well acquainted with all the different systems of divinity, but was most strongly attached to that which was so ably defended by Mr. Edwards, one of the presidents of the College of New-Jersey. He was also one of the founders of the first Presbyterian church of the city of Philadelphia, and a member for near seventy years. As a proof of the influence of the religion he loved, it is worthy of notice that in the whole course of his long life he never was once heard to swear profanely, nor to take his Maker's name in vain.

Dr. Shippen departed this life, November 4th, 1801, aged 89. In private life he was a tender husband, an affectionate parent and kind master. To his family in all its extensive branches he was kind and attentive, and to all he was strictly just. But amidst the bright cluster of his virtues conspicuously shone his humility, modesty, integrity and truth. His temperance was so great that, till within a few weeks of his death, he never drank wine, nor any other spirituous liquor. He owed his health very much not only to his temperance, but to constant daily exercise. He superintended the business of his farm, and had always the entire management of his large estate, until a few months before he died. In his family he exhibited that simplicity in living which is alike consonant to the principles of christianity and republicanism ; even his dress conveyed his ideas of simplicity, for he was opposed to ostentation in every thing. His temper was another

remarkable trait in his character ; it was uniformly sweet, as well as forbearing, forgiving, cheerful and serene. He had so much of the vivacity of youth, that, when between eighty and ninety years of age, he often witnessed their pleasures when innocent, and even sometimes partook of them. His benevolence was so universal, that it may very justly be said of him that he wished well to the whole human race. He lived beloved, and at the great age of ninety years he bowed his reverend head to the will of his merciful Creator, amidst his numerous descendants, regretted and lamented, and was buried in the graveyard of the church to which he had been so useful, by the side of six of his grandchildren, followed by a large train of his mourning relatives and friends.—*Med. Repository.*

SHIPPEN, WILLIAM, M.D., M.M.S.S. Hon. This very eminent physician was the son of the preceding, who descended from one of the associates of the illustrious founder of Pennsylvania. He was born in the year 1736, and passed the early part of his life in Philadelphia. At the usual age he was placed in a highly respectable grammar school, which was kept at Nottingham, in Chester county, by Mr. Finlay, afterwards principal of the College of New-Jersey. At that period no college or large chartered school existed between New-Haven in Connecticut, and Williamsburgh in Virginia ; but there were several valuable private seminaries in Pennsylvania, and among them Mr. Finlay's was much distinguished, particularly for the attainments of his pupils in the learned languages. He appears to have availed himself of these early advantages ; for, when removed to the College of New-Jersey, which was soon after established at Newark, he evinced a very critical knowledge of the Latin language. Among other exercises public speaking was much practised, and at this time he began to display that fine elocution which was so conspicuous during his life. He passed through the usual studies, and was graduated under President Burr. His great reputation as a speaker procured for him the appointment of Valedictory Orator at the Commencement, and he acquitted himself so well that the celebrated preacher Whitefield, who happened to be present, addressed him publicly, and, declaring that he had never heard better speaking, urged him to devote himself to the pulpit. This was in 1754. The three following years he spent in the city of Philadelphia, under the care of his father, as a

student of medicine ; and embarked for Europe soon after, at the age of twenty-one.

His first residence was in London, and in the family of Mr. John Hunter, who at that time assisted his brother in anatomical lectures, and appears to have devoted all his leisure to the study of comparative anatomy. At this place and at Dr. William Hunter's theatre young Shippen spent a great part of his time. As Hunter was considered one of the first demonstrators of anatomy, his pupil, being sensible of his excellence, most probably imitated his manner. During his connexion with the Hunters, he often associated with the well known Mr. William Hewson, and appears also to have enjoyed the particular favor of the very eminent Sir John Pringle. Having attended, with Pringle, the examination of several patients who had died under his care, he used often to mention the candor of that great physician in urging these anatomists to declare freely their sentiments of the diseased appearances, without regard to his previous opinion. At this time also commenced his acquaintance with Dr. John Fothergill. The people of Pennsylvania seem always to have been regarded with affection by this benevolent individual, but at the present time he was more interested for them than usual. The Pennsylvania Hospital had lately been erected. He took it for granted that students would resort to it, and supposed that they might experience great difficulty in acquiring a knowledge of anatomy. To remedy this defect in their medical education, he employed Rimsdyck, one of the first artists of Great Britain, to execute the crayon paintings now in that institution, which exhibit the whole structure of the body, of the full size, and the gravid uterus, with many of the varied circumstances of natural and preternatural parturition. These paintings are reported to have cost two hundred guineas, and with one hundred and fifty guineas in addition, which he contributed to the hospital, constitute a most substantial proof of his regard as well as of his liberality.

Shippen while cultivating anatomy in London was equally intent upon the subject of midwifery ; he attended the lectures of Hunter upon this subject with great care, and seems to have become a convert to most of the peculiar doctrines of his preceptor. In the summer season he also attended the lectures of a celebrated accoucheur, Dr. McKenzie. During his residence in Great Britain he stu-

died and was graduated at Edinburgh. His thesis was on a very important subject, *De Placentæ cum Utero Nexu*. He left Edinburgh with sentiments of the greatest veneration for Cullen and the elder Monro. After finishing his studies in Great Britain he wished to visit France. But this was rendered difficult by the war which then existed between those countries. On this occasion his friend, Sir John Pringle, introduced him to a lady affected with pulmonary consumption, who interested George II. to obtain from the court of France permission to travel for the benefit of her health in the southern parts of that country. He accompanied her in a medical capacity, and in consequence formed a more intimate acquaintance with the celebrated Senac, and some other physicians of Paris, than he could otherwise have done.

He resided a short time in France, and returned to his native country in the year 1762, fully determined to teach anatomy by dissection, and to practise midwifery. As both these schemes were new to a large majority of the community in which they were to be executed, the undertaking must have been considered as very delicate. An acquaintance with the two subjects was not all that was necessary to insure success: few things require more knowledge of human nature, and greater powers of accommodation to the feelings of the human heart. Nature had been uncommonly bountiful in the form and endowments of Dr. Shippen. His person was graceful, his manners polished, his conversation various, and the tones of his voice singularly sweet and conciliatory. In his intercourse with society he was gay without levity, and dignified without haughtiness or austerity. He belonged to a family which was proverbial for good temper. His father, whom he strongly resembled in this respect, during the long life of ninety years had scarcely ever been seen out of humor. He was also particularly agreeable to young people. Known as he was to almost every citizen of Philadelphia, it is probable that there was no one who did not wish him well.

Dr. Shippen arrived from Europe in May, 1762, and the anatomical paintings, formerly alluded to, came soon after. These very valuable paintings presented by the benevolent Dr. Fothergill, who expected Shippen would explain them, being committed to his care, were soon put up, and may be considered as the precursors of Shippen's

dissections, since in the autumn of the same year, as soon as the season permitted, his first course of anatomy began. The introductory lecture was delivered in one of the large apartments of the State House, and many of the gentlemen of Philadelphia heard it with pleasure. The number of students who attended his course, amounted only to twelve ; such was the origin of our medical school. He gave three courses of lectures unconnected with any institution, when, May 3d, 1765, Dr. John Morgan laid before the trustees of the college, a plan for establishing a medical school under their auspices, accompanied by a letter from the honorable Thomas Penn recommending the plan to their patronage. In September Dr. Shippen addressed a letter to the trustees, stating that the institution of a medical school had been his favorite object for seven years, and that he had proposed it three years before in his first introductory lecture ; upon which he was immediately and unanimously chosen Professor of Anatomy and Surgery. The anatomical lectures were regularly delivered from year to year until the fourteenth course, which was in the winter of 1775, when they were suspended by the war of the revolution. The annual number of students by this time had increased to between thirty and forty. The school, of course, was completely established, and Shippen's character as a lecturer decided by the number of his students, for he had now taught nearly three hundred. Many of them afterwards went abroad to perfect their education, and returned to practise in their native country. All these travellers, I believe, without a single exception, and without conferring together, declared that they had met with no man who was superior to Shippen as a demonstrator of anatomy, and very few indeed that were equal to him. In explaining the success of Dr. Shippen in teaching anatomy, we may take into view another faculty which he also exerted with great effect. He went through the substance of each preceding lecture by interrogation instead of recapitulation, thus fixing the attention of the students ; and his manner was so happy, that this grave process proceeded like a piece of amusement. His irony was of a delicate kind, and so blended with humor, that he could repress forwardness, and take notice of negligence, so as to admonish his class without too much exposing the defaulter.

In this manner was he proceeding with his favorite scheme, when his career was suspended by his entering into the medical department of the army in the year 1776. Though he continued in this station till 1780, his anatomical lectures were interrupted only during the winters of 1776 and 1777. He afterwards came to the city for the purpose of delivering the accustomed courses, which were necessarily shorter than before. In January, 1781, he resigned the post of Director General of the medical department of the army, three months after he had been a second time elected to it, determined to resume all his former pursuits. He had apartments of his own construction, every way adequate to the accommodation of his class, with proper arrangements also for teaching practical anatomy.

During many years he devoted himself very much to the practice of midwifery, effecting by these means a great change in the habits of the city. But there was an inherent difficulty in this undertaking, there being at this time very few occasions where medical men were employed for this purpose in the first instance. It was only when something very important was to be done that they were resorted to ; and very often when too late. This was altogether the effect of prejudice, and not of necessity, for several of the medical gentlemen were accoucheurs. By Shippen this prejudice was so far removed that in the course of ten years he became very fully employed. He also taught midwifery. Prior to the revolution, he seems to have had a distinct class of students in this branch ; after that period he delivered a short course to his general class ; and, brilliant as he generally was, I believe there was no lecture in which he shone so much, as in his introductory one to midwifery, upon the subject of address and deportment.

After lecturing and practising as accoucheur, surgeon and physician for ten or twelve years, subsequently to leaving the American army, his habits suffered an immense alteration by an occurrence which, as far as respected himself, was one of the most important and afflicting that he had ever experienced. His only son had every advantage in education that good sense and knowledge of human nature, that respectable connexions, and finally that money, could procure for him ; and such were his talents and application, that his proficiency was equal to his opportuni-



ties. He had often been caressed by Washington ; he went abroad and visited France under the auspices of Jefferson; whilst in England he enjoyed the countenance of the late President Adams, and was on intimate terms with Lord Shelburne. His letters from those countries were so replete with information and ability, that they gave great pleasure to many persons, to whom his delighted father used to read them. After four years of absence he returned, and proved to be exactly what parental affection wished. He was not only a man of talents and information, but of great virtue and strong filial attachment. Shippen would have loved him as a friend, had there been no other connexion between them. The feelings excited by these qualities, produced a degree of fondness for his son which has seldom been equalled. He seemed to lose sight of himself, and forget that he also had a part to act, so fully was his attention absorbed by this endeared object. His strongest wish was to pass the remainder of his life as his son's guest. He therefore gave him the fairest portion of his estate, and, to obtain leisure and exemption from care, procured the establishment of an adjunct professor of anatomy. But, alas ! instead of realizing any of these fond hopes, he had to endure a disappointment the most painful which suffering humanity can experience. In 1792 his son began to complain of ill health. The father in vain devoted to him almost the whole of his time, and consulted, occasionally, all his medical friends. After a great variety of efforts for his relief, and much suffering on his part, he died in 1798. Thus the object upon which he founded hopes of comfort for the remainder of his life, and which he had contemplated with increasing tenderness for thirty years, was for ever removed.

Though this heavy stroke did not entirely prostrate him, it did him a greater injury by destroying the interest he felt in every remaining object. It cut the sinews of his exertions, and left him gradually to wither, the amiable victim of paternal affection. From this time his business as a practitioner declined. He seldom lectured on anatomy, and generally with reluctance ; though, when he did lecture, he always gave the greatest pleasure to his class. The only studies to which he applied himself, after this period, were of a religious nature. He was educated in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church ; but he now read and thought much on the subject of universal restora-

tion, and finally adopted that belief with great confidence. Three years ago his spirits appeared again to return. He was attacked, however, with vertigo, which greatly depressed him, and which was soon followed by symptoms of hydrothorax.

Last winter he delivered the introductory lecture, though very infirm and unlike what he had formerly been. Yet he was much roused by the appearance of the class in the new theatre, and feelingly described his emotions upon comparing these with his original set of students forty years before,\* and on reflecting that every medical professor in the institution had been taught anatomy by himself. It was indeed impossible that he could survey the result of his labors without sincere satisfaction. Of his elder students, there were some to be found in almost every state, who were amongst the most distinguished of their profession, and in latter times he had seen the pupils of his school extend in various directions, from the Hudson far beyond the Ohio, and from the shores of Lake Erie to the borders of the Gulf of Mexico. During this course he lectured, as usual, on midwifery. But in the succeeding spring his debility increased, and he removed early in the summer to Germantown. Here he was attacked by an anthrax, which so much increased his weakness that he sunk under it, on the 11th day of July, 1808.

From this review of the professional career of our deceased friend, it appears that he had the peculiar talent of successfully promoting an object of immense utility to his country ; and that his steadiness in pursuit thereof entitles him to be ranked amongst the benefactors of mankind. To this it ought to be added, that after an eventful life he left the world without an enemy, whilst many indeed sincerely regret that the amiable Shippen is no more.—*Wistar's Eulogium on William Shippen, M.D., delivered before the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, March, 1809.*—See *Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences, Vol. V.*

SMITH, ELIHU HUBBARD, M.D., was a native of Litchfield in Connecticut, and was born in the year 1771. Having received the rudiments of knowledge at a school in Litchfield, he entered the college of New-Haven, at the early age of eleven. At this distinguished seat of learning he gave many proofs of intellectual energy, far beyond

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\* The class was now probably near four hundred.

those we are accustomed to observe in one of so unripe an age. He completed his education under the particular care of the Rev. Dr. Timothy Dwight, who then presided over an academy of distinguished reputation at Greenfield, and who, upon the death of the Rev. Dr. Stiles, succeeded to the presidency of Yale College. In 1786 Mr Smith received the degree of A.B. from the college of New-Haven.

He now returned to Litchfield, and under the direction of his father, a practitioner of physic, commenced the study of medicine. In the year 1791 he resorted to Philadelphia for the purpose of attending the several courses of medical instruction delivered in that city. After this period, in 1792, he chose as his residence, Wethersfield, in Connecticut, where he entered upon the practical duties of his profession. In this place, however, much as he was respected and esteemed for his social and moral virtues, he found but little employment as physician, and consequently, in the autumn of 1793, removed to the city of New-York, where he remained until his death, in 1798.

In New-York he devoted himself with great ardor to his medical pursuits, and by his perseverance and attention gradually surmounted those obstacles to professional success which naturally arose from his youth and the limited number of his acquaintance. But beside those branches of science more immediately connected with the medical profession, he cultivated with great industry almost every department of literature. His genius as a poet unfolded itself at an early age, and among the poetical productions of his juvenile pen are not a few which manifest considerable vigor of imagination, and easy flow of numbers. In the year 1796 the governors of the New-York Hospital elected him one of the physicians of that extensive charity, the duties of which station he discharged much to the benefit of that institution, and to the increase of his own reputation.

In this year appeared his first production on a subject strictly medical, viz. "Letters to William Buel, Physician, Sheffield, Massachusetts, on the Fever which prevailed in New-York in 1795." These letters were written at the request and for the information of Dr. Buel, and though not originally intended for the press, were, at the suggestion of some friends of the author, published in the "Collection of Papers on the Subject of Bilious Fevers

prevalent in the United States," edited by N. Webster, Esq. Shortly after this period Dr. Smith, in conjunction with Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell and the late Dr. Edward Miller, projected the publication of the New-York Medical Repository. From the establishment of a periodical journal of this kind, in the infant state of medical and physical science in this country, he anticipated numerous important advantages to the profession of medicine and the collateral branches of knowledge ; and, as he was one of the most active promoters of the design, he zealously devoted the chief part of his attention to its successful accomplishment. The chief of his writings in the Medical Repository are, his History of the Plague of Athens, Vol. I. page 1 to 32 ; Case of Mania successfully treated by Mercury, do., p. 174—178 ; Observations on the Origin of the Pestilential Fever which prevailed in the Island of Grenada in the years 1793 and 1794, do., p. 459—486 ; On a Singular Disease with which Infants are sometimes affected, do., p. 501—504 ; The Natural History of the Elk, Vol. II. p. 168—174 ; On the Pestilential Diseases which appeared in the Athenian, Carthaginian and Roman armies, in the Neighborhood of Syracuse, do., p. 367—384.

Beside the medical productions in the Repository, he published Edwin and Angelina, or the Banditti, an Opera in three Acts, 8vo. 1797 ; and in 1798, a Discourse delivered before the New-York Manumission Society, 8vo. The same year he undertook the office of editor of an American Edition of Darwin's Botanic Garden ; and, to evince his respect for the author of this celebrated poem, he prefixed to the volume a poetic address, happily describing the rise, progress and use of the art of printing as connected with science, and particularly its effects in spreading this botanic song from Britain to the remotest corner of the new hemisphere. This beautiful address is retained in the second American edition of the Botanic Garden, published in 1807. Beside these miscellaneous productions, he is supposed to be the author of "Andrè, a Tragedy in five Acts, performed in New-York, March, 1798."

While thus actively employed in the discharge of the important duties of his profession, and in the cultivation of the various branches of knowledge which elevate and adorn the human character, he, in the month of Septem-

ber, 1798, when only in the 27th year of his age, was attacked with the yellow fever then prevailing with great mortality in the city of New-York, to which disease he soon fell a victim. In a communication to Dr. David Hosack, Dr. Mitchell, one of the surviving friends and colleagues of Dr. Smith, thus describes his last illness: "During the warm season of that pestilential year, Elihu H. Smith and myself had been associated in performing our respective duties as physicians of the New-York Hospital. We had frequent conferences on the periodical work in which he, Edward Miller and myself, with the coöperation of Messrs. T. and J. Swords, had become engaged. We had both been favored with fine health, and had been sustained in full enjoyment of our powers, while the prevailing distemper was destroying lives at an unusual rate around us. We had more than once observed how remarkably well we felt; and, when strangers and visitors called upon us, how entirely we were capacitated to receive them and enjoy their society. Among these was the accomplished and elegant Scandella.\* In the difficulty which had arisen about procuring a lodging, this amiable gentleman apprehended some serious inconve-

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\* The following tribute to the memory of this amiable and excellent man, extracted from the Medical Repository, may with propriety be introduced in this place. "Died, September 16th, 1798, J. B. Scandella, M.D. aged 28. The fate of this gentleman was in a remarkable degree to be lamented. He was a native of the Venetian State. His family was opulent and high in rank. He had received the best medical education, but had consecrated his faculties to the general improvement of science, and the benefit of mankind. Having resided for some time at London in the capacity of secretary to the Venetian Embassy, he conceived the design of visiting America. His country's service no longer demanding his attention, he proposed to gratify a liberal curiosity in surveying the principles and structure of a rising empire. He first arrived at Quebec, and thence took various journeys through the southern and western districts. His personal merits secured him the esteem of the persons among us most eminent for their knowledge and talents. His candor and blameless deportment made him be regarded with peculiar tenderness by all who knew him. His chief attention was directed to agricultural improvements and projects, justly conceiving that mankind would derive most benefit from the perfection of this art.

"Having spent two years in this country, and accomplished the purposes which brought him hither, he embarked for Europe in June, 1798. The vessel proving unfit for the voyage, he returned to Philadelphia, the port from which he had set out. Shortly after he came to New-York, and engaged a passage in a packet which was speedily to sail from this harbor. The detention of his baggage, which was daily expected from Philadelphia, occasioned him the loss of this opportunity. An epidemical disease had meanwhile made its appearance in both cities. Notwithstanding its greater progress and malignity in the latter city, his concern in the welfare of a helpless family, whom his departure had deprived of their only useful friend, induced him to return thither. After enduring the continual loss of rest, and exposing himself to the influence of an infected atmosphere for ten days, he set out on his return to New-York. He had scarcely arrived before symptoms of disease appeared, which, on the sixth day, terminated in death."

nience. In the ardor of his friendship Smith asked him to his own house ; his distemper proved to be the reigning epidemic. It was one of the most obstinate, rapid and indomitable cases. It advanced with such speed that there was time but for a few visits. On the day that I called last to see Scandella, I found him overpowered by the disease, and lying a corpse upon the bed. This was affecting enough ; but my solicitude was exceedingly increased by learning that Smith had been sick since the preceding afternoon. He was confined to his bed in an adjoining chamber, and was wholly ignorant of the fate of Scandella. On entering the room I roused him from the drowsy state in which he lay. I opened the inner shutters of the window for the purpose of admitting a little more light. It was early on Sunday morning. I inquired how he was, and received for answer, a frequent one in those days, that he was not very unwell, and would be better by and by. I saw, however, in a glance, enough to satisfy me that the disorder had already made alarming progress. The suffusion of his face, and the inflamed and glassy eye, were unequivocal symptoms of danger. But when he inquired of me if it was not almost sundown, and thereby showed that he had lost the reckoning of time, I perceived that the coherence of his mind was broken. I soon withdrew, and pronounced my apprehensions for his safety. His friend, Mr. Johnson, caused him to be immediately removed from Pine street to his house in Greenwich street, and every possible comfort to be administered. There Miller joined me in devising the course of treatment for our invaluable friend. There was but a remnant of time left. Smith expressed to us a desire to have the mercurial practice tried upon himself. We instantly agreed to it. Some of the strongest ointment was procured, and a nurse from the hospital was permitted to gratify her feelings by applying it with her own hands. This task the faithful woman performed so well that she salivated herself. But so implacable and inveterate was the disease, that the quicksilver produced no sensible operation whatever upon the patient. Black vomiting with universal yellowness came on, and he sunk under a malady which nothing could even mitigate or retard. He was interred in the ground of the Presbyterian church in Wall street, very near the spot in which another of my valuable friends, William Pitt Smith, had been buried. Miller,

Johnson and myself, with a very few others, were all that could be found, on that day of mortality and dismay, to follow his hearse."

We shall not in this place discuss the particular merits or defects of Dr. Smith's writings. The most esteemed of his miscellaneous productions is his Epistle to Dr. Darwin, written in the style of that poetical philosopher and physician. Of his writings, strictly medical, his Lectures on the yellow fever which prevailed in New-York, afford a favorable specimen. He was an advocate for the domestic origin and noncontagious nature of this disease, and, from a full persuasion of the correctness of his opinions, was zealous in the support of them. An examination of the facts and reasonings upon which this opinion was maintained, we at this time purposely forbear. It was natural to expect that the limited experience which at that day the practitioners of the United States possessed relative to that epidemic, would lead many, and particularly one of the ardent mind of Dr. Smith, into erroneous opinions concerning its peculiar character, which time and repeated observation would correct. His histories of the Athenian plague, and of the pestilential diseases which appeared in the Athenian, Carthaginian and Roman armies, we have already mentioned. Though the author's particular views as to the nature of these diseases are always before us, we need no other evidence than these histories to convince us that his diligence, activity and perseverance knew no common bounds, and that at his early age he had explored a great extent of medical learning. His history of the native American Elk is a specimen of the accuracy with which he described natural objects, of the promptness with which he seized opportunities, and of the learning which he diffused around the subject of his inquiry.

In announcing the death of Dr. Smith, the surviving editors of the Medical Repository thus speak: "As a physician his loss is irreparable. He had explored at his early age an extent of medical learning, for which the longest lives are seldom found sufficient." "The love of science and the impulse of philanthropy directed his whole professional career, and left little room for the calculations of emolument. He had formed vast designs of medical improvement, which embraced the whole family of mankind; was animated by the soul of benevolence,

and aspired after every object of a liberal and a dignified ambition. He was ripe for the highest honors of his profession ; his merits were every day becoming more conspicuous, and nothing but his premature fate deprived him of that extraordinary degree of public confidence which awaited a longer continuance of his life."

In the Eulogy on the late Dr. Rush, delivered by Professor Mitchell, on the 8th of May, 1813, before the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the University of New-York, the epistolary intercourse of Dr. Rush with Dr. Smith and Dr. Miller, is mentioned as one of the happy incidents of his life. The orator then proceeded to say, " Of these two persons thus brought to my recollection, permit me, learned associates, to make the mention which friendship inspires. With them both I enjoyed that virtuous and intellectual intercourse which renders an acquaintance delightful. The former possessed a mind of such rare and exquisite finish, a temper so adapted to the social condition, and a manner so delicate and refined, that few of his contemporaries could rival him. With a diligence that left him few lost moments to regret, a method which placed everything he knew exactly where it ought to be, and an application of his talents to do all the good in his power, he was an ornament to the time in which he lived. Difficult, indeed, would it be to find such another ! The latter, also my companion and fellow laborer in undertakings which to ourselves at least seemed useful and advantageous, was endowed with uncommon qualities. His head was a treasury of information ; his heart a mine of beneficence. With a rich fund of learning, and a capacity to turn that acquirement to the best account, he shone to great advantage in the most polished circles. His professional career, both in his public capacity and in his private walks, was the subject of such commendation, that the calls to service were almost incessant. When such excellence, with all the mildness and benignity which adorned it, was summoned away, it is no wonder that the city felt a disposition to mourn !"

Another writer speaks of the death of this excellent man in the following language. He died a victim to the destructive epidemic, the yellow fever, September 19th, 1798, aged 27 years. There were few who perished during that calamitous season whose fate excited more universal regret, and whose memory will be more fondly and



permanently cherished. In his domestic relations the knowledge of his excellence is necessarily confined to few ; but by those few his conduct as a son and a brother will ever be regarded as a model of unblemished rectitude. Indefatigable in the promotion of the true interest of those allied to him, a casual observer would be disposed to imagine his whole attention to be absorbed by this object, and that he whose affections were so ardent, and whose mind so active for their good, had no leisure for the offices of friendship and for the pursuit of general happiness. To these valuable purposes, however, no one attended with more zeal and assiduity. To those who were blessed with his friendship, and the number was by no means small, his attachment was unwavering, and his efforts for their benefit without remission. To the cause of general happiness he devoted his abilities with no less zeal.

SMITH, JAMES, M.D. He was brother to the distinguished historian of New-York. Dr. Smith received his medical education chiefly in Europe, and was graduated Doctor of Medicine at Leyden, on which occasion he defended an inaugural dissertation, *de Febre Intermittente*. He is admitted by all to have been eminently learned, though too theoretical and fanciful, both as a practitioner of the healing art, and in his course of public instruction. He died at an advanced age in the city of New-York in 1812.

SPALDING, LYMAN, M.D., was a native of Cornish, New-Hampshire, and was born June 5th, 1775. After passing the usual academic term at Charleston, he entered Harvard University, where he was graduated with honor in the year 1797. Immediately on leaving the university he commenced his medical studies under the auspices of that distinguished practitioner, Nathan Smith, M.D. where he imbibed that thirst for knowledge and formed those habits of industry, which distinguished him so greatly in after life. So early as 1798, even before he had completed his medical education, he displayed a creditable degree of enterprise in assisting Professor Smith in the work of instituting the medical school at Dartmouth College ; a chemical apparatus was to be created, and Dr. Spalding possessed the ingenuity and enthusiasm fitted for the occasion, and he commenced the first course of lectures on chemistry at the opening of that institution.

Having received an honorary degree at Dartmouth, he entered upon the practice of medicine at Portsmouth in 1799. Being naturally endowed with a mind ardent, vigorous and discriminating, he possessed also a patience of investigation and a steadiness of purpose, which peculiarly fitted him for the profession he had chosen. To its advancement he directed all the energies of his soul ; and in all its duties he was vigilant, indefatigable and faithful to the last. It was not, however, from motives grovelling and mercenary that he labored so assiduously ; he had far nobler views ; he loved his profession as a science, and he neglected no opportunities of unfolding its mysteries, and, as far as was in his power, of himself contributing to its treasures. He was through life a laborious and a systematic student ; suffering no moments to escape without useful employment, or adding something to his fund of acquirements. Aware of the importance of an intimate acquaintance with the human structure to success in the practice of both medicine and surgery, he made this his first grand object of pursuit. How far he succeeded in attaining to a thorough knowledge of anatomy, those who have witnessed his skill in dissection, and his beautiful preparations, particularly of the Lymphatics, some of which we believe enrich the cabinets of our first institutions, will bear ample testimony. His success in this branch of knowledge gave him considerable celebrity as a surgeon, for which he was qualified by his skill, as well as by a remarkable boldness and decision of character.

In the theory and practice of medicine he was also a proficient. In this, as in every thing he undertook, truth and the advancement of knowledge, were his leading pursuits. Despising the popular belief that a little practice and experience are alone the grand requisites to success, he labored for principles, and by uncommon industry availed himself of all that was useful in the theory and practice of others, and also of a general acquaintance with the collateral branches of his favorite science. If he sometimes erred, (as who does not ?) in this wide field of speculative enquiry, his errors had at least the merit of system, to ensure for them a degree of respect. But he was by no means tenacious of opinions, however deliberately formed ; if proved to be false, they were openly abandoned, as they had before been honestly avowed. Dr. S. was distinguished for his kindness and activity in his attendance on the

sick, and for his liberal and gentlemanly deportment in his intercourse with his brethren of the Faculty.

In the year 1812 the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the western district of the state of New-York was incorporated, and Dr. Spalding elected President, and Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, and lecturer on the Institutes of Medicine. His duties as professor required him to make annual visits to that place, where the flourishing state of the school, and the yearly increase of its pupils gave sufficient evidence of his popularity and ability as a teacher. In 1813 the city of New-York presenting a wider field for the exercise of his talents, and greater facilities for improvement, he took up his residence there ; and finding, in the course of two or three years, his academical labors to be incompatible with the active duties of his profession, and the interest of his family, he resigned his offices at the institution.

The same assiduity and zeal that characterized his early days, marked his course in maturer life ; and the contributions of his pen to the medical and philosophical journals of the day are replete with deep investigation and sound learning. With him originated the plan for the formation of the Pharmacopœia of the United States, and it was from his pen that the circular letters to the different medical schools and societies for their coöperation proceeded. He early submitted the project to the Board of Trustees of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the city of New-York, of which he was a member. That body approved the measure and appointed a committee on their part to carry it into full effect. In short, Dr. Spalding's efforts are traced in the whole progress of the undertaking ; he was elected a member of the convention for the middle district, and was delegated to the general convention at Washington to complete the work, and was one of the committee for its publication. In fact the public are greatly indebted to the ardency and professional zeal which characterized the conduct of Dr. Spalding on this very important occasion.

Some idea of the estimation in which the character of Dr. S. was held, both at home and abroad, may be formed, when it is stated that he was a member of most of the learned societies in our own country, and of several in Europe.

Each succeeding year was enlarging his sphere of usefulness, and adding to his respectability ; but the Being who controlleth the destinies of man, in his infinite wisdom saw fit to remove from his earthly toils this distinguished laborer in the cause of science and humanity ; in the midst of life, when his hopes were strongest, and his prospects most flattering, he was summoned hence. His death was occasioned by an accidental wound on the head, which produced chronic inflammation of the brain, admitting of no alleviation. He died in the year 1821, aged 46 years.

SPRING, MARSHALL, M.D. M.M.S.S. was born in Watertown, Massachusetts, of respectable parents. His maternal uncle, Dr. Josiah Converse, one of the most esteemed physicians of that day, patronised and assisted in giving him a public education. At that time the number of the sons of Harvard who were conspicuous for general literature was very small. He was graduated in 1762, and promptly decided to devote himself to the study and practice of physic and surgery. Being prepared for his professional duties, he resided a short time at St. Eustatia, then returned and settled in Watertown, where he speedily entered into large practice, and enjoyed the confidence of the people. And such was his success, that comparatively very few elder physicians were called in to advise him, and he once observed to a friend that he was astonished at the unbounded confidence placed in his judgment. In all the pleasant parts of the year his house in the morning, especially on Sundays, was thronged with persons seeking professional advice ; and such was the confidence in the soundness of his judgment and skill, that his practice continued unabated to the close of his life. The ancient practice of the multitude resorting to an oracle, seemed to be revived and realized there.

His mind was not filled by the fashionable theories of the day any further than they accorded with his own views of practice. A strong natural sagacity, or force of judgment, was the peculiar and distinguishing feature of his mind. This led him to deep and critical observations into the causes and nature of diseases, and their remedies. He appeared to learn more of the nature of the diseases of his patients by the eye than by the ear. He asked few questions ; hence his knowledge of their cases appeared like intuition. He often effected cures by directing changes of

habits, of diet and regimen. He used little medicine, always giving nature fair play. This, together with a bold and often successful application of simples, induced some among the more elaborate and artificial of the profession to call him a quack ; but if this means a man professing skill in the nature and cure of diseases, without possessing the requisite ability and knowledge, the epithet was never more misapplied : if, on the other hand, a bold and fearless resort to first principles " when the file affords no precedent," or even in disregard of a servile adherence to precedent ; if assuming the responsibility of acting on one's own judgment, and regarding the opinions of others as auxiliaries merely, be quackery, then indeed Dr. Spring might be said to be a quack. He was no book man, no friend to the profuse use of medicines, abhorred the tricks and mummary of the profession, used no learned terms, to make the vulgar either in or out of the profession stare. He thought, decided and acted for himself. He was disgusted at the unmeaning and unscientific use of epithets by the profession, as descriptive of the various kinds of diseases. Being in company with some physicians at Philadelphia, and hearing grave and learned discussions about scarlet, spotted and yellow fevers, he undertook to describe a certain disease, prevalent in his part of the country, and being asked what kind of fever it was considered, he replied, that the learned among the profession had not yet fixed upon its denomination, but it was at present best known by the name of the " bottle green fever."

Dr. Spring was in his person rather short, but compact and well proportioned ; always a fine looking man ; after the age of fifty, till the time of his death at the age of seventy-seven years, he was spoken of as one of the handsomest men of his time. His hair in snowy whiteness remained upon his head in sufficient quantity to set off the great advantage of an exceedingly fair and florid complexion. His utterance was calm, rather slow, but regular. Naturally resolute and firm, with much sensibility of feeling and quick and strong passions, he had disciplined himself into a full command of his feelings, and held his passions in entire subjection. He served his friends with great disinterestedness and zeal, and held the virtue of gratitude in higher estimation than most men do ; whoever showed him a grateful disposition had a sure passport to his confidence and favor. His habits of living, sanctioned

by his intimate knowledge of the human frame and constitution, exhibited a fine model for the profession and others to copy. He used food and drink for the nourishment and support of the body, not for the gratification of its grosser appetites and passions. His meals were frugal ; his board, though hospitable, was never spread with luxuries. His favorite beverage was black tea. He was temperate even unto the end. A most indulgent parent to his own child, he discharged his duties as such to the children of his wife, who was the widow of the late Dr. Binney of Philadelphia and a woman of singular merit, with much feeling and principle.

Among the circumstances, which contributed to the great reputation of Dr. Spring, was his successful mode of treatment of tetanus by the use of ardent spirit. Observing a total relaxation of the muscles of a man in a fit of intoxication, the idea occurred to him that ardent spirits by inducing drunkenness might prove a remedy in tetanus, and his first trial was attended with complete success ; and during the rest of his life he continued to repose unbounded confidence in its efficacy. The same confidence prevails among the people within the circle of his practice, and whenever symptoms of locked jaw are discovered, immediate recourse is had to this supposed powerful remedy.

In his pecuniary circumstances Dr. Spring was peculiarly fortunate. Receiving the whole of the estate of his relative and early patron, the late Dr. Converse, he was ever after a man of large property. Moderate in his charges, he never managed property in the spirit of gain. He used to say, that of his personal property he was pretty sure to lose both principal and interest ; if he vested it in real estate, he lost the interest only. He accordingly became possessed of a large real estate, and was a most indulgent landlord. He nevertheless left one of the largest estates of any professional man, who had died in the state. Had he charged as physicians of his skill and eminence usually do, especially those who practise in the metropolis, and managed his property with a view to accumulation, he would probably have left one of the largest fortunes in New-England.

The political life of Dr. Spring must not be overlooked. The American revolution found him in full, extensive and popular practice as a physician ; at a time of life, too, when the practice was of most consequence to him, both

as it regarded his property and his fame. The scene of his business lay among a population remarkable for their unanimity and order in all the measures of resistance to the mother country. The approaches of that event had been watched and estimated by him with all that interest, which the men of those times took in what they considered as involving every thing dear in this life. And when the crisis came, and the first scene of the drama opened, on the ever memorable 19th of April, it found Dr. Spring's mind settled in the full and firm conviction of the entire inexpediency of resistance ; yet he early appeared on the plains of Lexington, and continued during the day in the application of his skill and care to the wounded of his fellow citizens. His political opinions he neither concealed nor disguised, but so essential were his services in the healing art, and such was the known benevolence of his temper, that notwithstanding the high exasperation against the "tories," the people, who then held in their respective towns all executive, judicial and legislative power, gave him little molestation.\* He was several times summoned before the town's "committee of safety," to whose commands he always gave prompt obedience, and treated them with great apparent respect. "For," as he ironically said, "they now stood in the place of his king, and it was a fundamental principle that 'the king could do no wrong.'" Towards the persons composing these committees, he probably felt little respect on account of their political sagacity and discernment, and not a little contempt for their blind zeal; yet he submitted himself with great cheerfulness to their examinations, giving such replies to their interrogatories, as either from their wit and good humor were calculated to disarm prejudice, or from being equivocal and oracular left the committee wholly in doubt as to what were his intentions ; so that no measures of severity were ever adopted against him. His popularity as a man and a physician sustained him in the enjoyment of his opinions, and in the preservation of the confidence of his fellow citizens throughout the revolution.

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\* A gentleman who was well acquainted with the affairs of that day asserts that, in 1776, such was his notorious toryism, that he would unquestionably have been sent out of the country, under the law then made for that purpose, if the exigences of the ladies had not prevented. And from that cause he spake his mind more freely than any other man dared to do.

In 1789 he was chosen a member of the convention in Massachusetts which adopted the constitution of the United States. He associated intimately during its session with the leading politicians of that body, nearly all of whom were warmly in favor of its adoption. Dr. Spring was opposed, alleging that, as a frame of government, it wanted strength to ensure its durability, for he never was a full believer in the capacity of the people to be their self governors. He continued in the minority till the change of administration in 1801, always, however, mild, temperate and tolerant in his opinions. After this period, when called on in political conversation to account for his being a tory in 1775 and a democrat in 1801, he maintained his political consistency by alleging that his majesty reigned "by the grace of God," and the whigs had taught him that "vox populi" was "vox Dei." On being attacked by a gentleman high in office, an influential whig in 1775 and a warm supporter of the Washington administration, he defended himself and retorted the charge of inconsistency, by reminding him that the voice of the people was as much the voice of God now as it was in 1776.

Chief Justice Parsons took much pleasure in his company, and Dr. Spring was, perhaps, the only man in the commonwealth who was willing to measure weapons with him "in the keen encounter of wits." The Chief Justice justly prided himself on his acknowledged talent and superiority in this department, and therefore seldom failed, when they met under proper circumstances, to invite the Doctor into the field, who never declined the combat. The onsets of the Chief Justice were rapid, keen and overwhelming. The replies of the Doctor moderate, pungent and successful. The one redoubled the attack of a well disciplined militia; the other the defence of a well served artillery. These meetings, however, sometimes happened in the presence of a large company of professional gentlemen, who remained silent and delighted to "see these giants play."

Dr. Spring was several years a member of the Executive Council of Massachusetts. His party had prevailed in the election by a very small majority, but the next year the majority was very greatly increased. The Doctor, who in the latter years of his life was troubled with shortness of breath, while ascending on election morning the



steps to the State House, was accosted by a political adversary with "Good morning, Doctor, you find it difficult getting up here." He dryly replied, "Yes, sir ; but not so difficult, you perceive, as it was last year."

Dr. Spring made no ostentatious displays of charity, yet he contributed large amounts yearly to the more necessitous by not exacting his dues. This was habitual ; for he seldom resorted to compulsory means against any who were indebted to him. There was a tone of benevolence pervading his heart, which always led him to the mild, forgiving side. A petition was presented to the Executive Council for the pardon of a convict for life in the state prison, who had already been there seven years. A member opposed the pardon on the ground of the convict's being an old and incorrigible offender. Dr. Spring replied that upon principles of the animal economy the pardon ought to be granted ; that every animal, by the progress of growth and decay, becomes entirely changed in a given space of time ; so that no particle of what composed the animal at a certain time, made a part of the same animal five or seven years after. Upon this principle he contended that the petitioner had lost his personal identity, and was not the same person who was convicted and sentenced seven years ago ; and thus in a strain of remark and argument, made up of wit and irony, put the governor and council in good humor, and obtained the man's release.

Dr. Spring ended his useful life in January, 1818, in the 76th year of his age, leaving one son, who inherited his father's fortune, amounting, it is supposed, to between two and three hundred thousand dollars. This gentleman married a lady in Philadelphia ; both died a few years after, leaving four young children. It is to be lamented that no part of Dr. Spring's ample fortune was devoted to the laudable purpose of supporting religious and charitable institutions.

STRINGER, DR. SAMUEL, an eminent physician, was born in the state of Maryland. He studied medicine in Philadelphia under the late Dr. Bond, and as early as 1755 was appointed by Governor Shirley an officer in the medical department of the British army then in this country. In 1758 he accompanied the army under the command of General Abercrombie, and was present when Lord Howe fell in advancing to the siege of Ticonderoga. At

the conclusion of the French war he settled and married in Albany. When the American revolution commenced the provincial congress appointed him Director General of the Hospitals in the northern department, and in this capacity he accompanied the troops engaged in the invasion of Canada.

On leaving the army in 1777 he again returned to Albany, and until his death was among the first physicians and surgeons in that place and vicinity. He was always ready, even in advanced life, to introduce what were deemed improvements in practice; and at one period he made extensive use of oxygen as a medicinal agent. Indeed he continued partial to it, and believed that he had often seen good effects from its use. He was frugal in his habits and of the utmost temperance in his mode of living. Nor could he at the latter part of his life hold in any estimation the inebriated, whatever their talents might be. He died at Albany, July 11th, 1817, in the 83d year of his age.

STRINGHAM, JAMES S. M.D. was born in the city of New-York, of respectable parents, whose circumstances in life happily enabled them to furnish to their son the opportunities of a liberal education. He prosecuted his classical studies in Columbia College, and was graduated there in 1793. His habits and disposition inclined him to the theological profession; and, for some time after he had received his collegiate honor in the arts, he pursued a course of learning for the ministry. His health becoming delicate from an attack of hemoptysis, he relinquished with reluctance this intention. He now entered upon a course of medical education under the care of the late Dr. S. Bard and Dr. David Hosack, and attended with exemplary diligence, for several years, to all the branches of medicine then taught by the Faculty of Physic in New-York. He subsequently proceeded to Edinburgh, became a student in the university of that renowned capital, and in 1799 received there the degree of M.D.

Within a very short time after his return to his native city he was elected Professor of Chemistry in Columbia College, in the place of the learned and distinguished Dr. Mitchell, who had for many years filled that chair, and to whom we are indebted for the first introduction of the French nomenclature of chemistry in this country. Dr. Stringham, however, not satisfied with these exertions,

and anxious for a more extended sphere of usefulness, now voluntarily prepared a course on legal medicine. His varied and classical erudition rendered this undertaking one peculiarly agreeable to him ; and to the students who attended his lectures, it proved a source of gratification equally novel and instructive. The utility of the science was cheerfully acknowledged by all.

Having long labored under an alarming organic disease of the heart, and finding his constitution materially impaired, Dr. Stringham resigned his office as professor of chemistry in Columbia College ; but, upon the union of the Medical Faculty of that institution with the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1803, he was induced to accept the professorship of medical jurisprudence. Yet this office became too oppressive from the tenderness of his health ; hopes which he had cherished, were shortly to be blasted ; and he was doomed to irremediable suffering and premature death. For years he had borne with manly patience and christian expectation the trials of a distressing complaint. The cheering counsel of his friends urged him to repair to the island of St. Croix, with the vain hope of a renewal of his health. Thither he went, and died on the 29th of June, 1817.

Besides his inaugural dissertation, "*De Absorbentium Systemate*," Dr. Stringham was the author of several essays and papers in the medical journals of the day. He published in the *New-York Medical Repository* an account of the efficacy of *Digitalis Purpurea* in allaying excessive action of the sanguiferous system, a description of a remarkable species of intestinal vermes, an account of the violent effects of corrosive sublimate, and a case of hydrocephalus ; in the *Philadelphia Medical Museum*, a paper on the effects of mercury in a case of syphilis ; and in the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*, a paper on the yellow fever of America, in which he maintained the specific character and contagious nature of that disorder.

To the foregoing memoir of Dr. Stringham, derived from the Inaugural discourse of his friend Professor Francis of New-York, I add the following extract from a letter addressed to me by the same gentleman.

"I trust you will incorporate in your contemplated Medical Biography some account of my late friend and predecessor in the chair of Juridical Medicine in the Uni-

versity of New-York, Dr. James S. Stringham. He deserves honorable mention. He was one of the most efficient of that class of men who have successfully and disinterestedly exerted themselves for the promotion of science in this country, at a period when comparatively few could be found engaged in so good a cause. He was the first teacher among his countrymen who gave a course of lectures on forensic medicine. His taste for this study he had originally imbibed from his able preceptor, Dr. Duncan, senior, of Edinburgh. From this excellent man he derived many of the views he imparted in his lectures, which, however, were enriched with materials drawn from extensive reading and reflection, from the elaborate investigations and details of Zacchius down to the recent productions of Foderè and Mahon. To Dr. Stringham are we indebted for the popularity which this intricate department of science now enjoys, and the importance with which it is cultivated in our medical schools. As a teacher his manner was admirably calculated to enlist the attention of his auditory and enforce respect; his style of composition was felicitous, and his delivery clear and forcible. Much might be said of his medical erudition in general. He was for some time one of the physicians of that extensive charity, the New-York Hospital. Here the freshness of his reading and his therapeutical talents were often conspicuous, and the clinical class were made wiser by the pertinence of his remarks. Notwithstanding he suffered long and greatly from an organic affection of the heart, and was often brought to the borders of the grave, he was seldom found without his book. He on several occasions evinced great independence and decision of character, particularly in the malignant yellow fever which prevailed in the city of New-York in 1803. He was a member of the Royal Medical and Physical Society of Edinburgh, and fellow of the New-York Literary, and Philosophical, and Historical Societies. It is deeply to be regretted that his MS. lectures on forensic medicine are still withheld from the public. One more honorable in his intercourse with his fellow men could not be found."

A syllabus of the lectures of Professor Stringham on medical jurisprudence, is contained in the American Medical and Philosophical Register.

SWETT, JOHN BARNARD, M.M.S.S., was born at Marblehead, in the county of Essex, on the first day of

June, 1752. He was the son of Samuel Swett, Esq., a worthy and respectable merchant, and grandson of Mr. Joseph Swett, who, about the middle of the last century, first introduced foreign commerce into the town; by means of which it so increased in wealth and numbers, that in the year 1770 its proportion of the province tax was next to that of Boston.\* His mother was the niece and adopted daughter of the Rev. John Barnard, congregational minister of Marblehead, and one of the most distinguished scholars and divines of his age and country, for whom he was named and by whom he was adopted.

Under the fostering care of this eminent man the subject of this article was educated, and derived from him a taste for classical learning, which he ever after retained. In his childhood and youth he had a buoyancy of spirits, which interfered with a close and undivided attention to his studies. His aged patron would often inquire of his instructor how his boy got on in his studies, and was as often answered "tolerably, sir." Provoked at length with the repetition of this reply, the old gentleman testily said, "tolerably, sir? Why do you not say intolerably at once?" This caustic rebuke from such a person had a good effect on the preceptor and his pupil, stimulating both to increased exertion.

Dr. Swett was matriculated at Harvard College in 1767. His amiable temper and pleasing manners made him a general favorite of his contemporaries, while his high sense of character rendered his progress in learning proportionate to his fine natural talents. About the time of his receiving his first degree in the arts, he was accidentally present at the opening and examination of the bodies of some persons who had come to a violent death. This circumstance determined his choice of the medical profession, to which his patron yielded with great reluctance, having a very strong desire that he should go into the ministry. Indeed so fixed was the old gentleman upon this object, that, although by his will he devised his estate to this child of his affections, a considerable portion was given upon the express condition that he should follow the clerical profession; a condition, with which habit and powerful inclination prohibited a compliance.

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\* Collections of the Mass. Hist. Soc. viii. 57.

Soon after he was graduated he repaired to Edinburgh, where he passed three years in the prosecution of his medical studies under the patronage and instruction of that eminent physician, Dr. William Cullen. Here he formed an acquaintance with, and enjoyed the society of Dr. Robertson, Mr. Hume, and other celebrated scholars of that day and place ; and made great advances in general literature, as well as in his professional pursuits.

The commercial embarrassments which preceded our revolution, interrupted his remittances ; and his adventurous spirit led him to close with a proposal made to him to go in the capacity of surgeon to a fleet of merchant vessels, which was then fitting in the port of London for the Falkland Islands under the superintendence of his countryman Mr. Rotch, and was commanded by Captain James Scott, for many years master of a ship in the trade between Boston and London. The object of the expedition was to make an establishment at the islands, with a view to the business of whaling and sealing. The undertaking was attended with great success at first ; but the revolutionary war soon brought it to a premature close. With the funds acquired in this enterprise he was enabled to complete his medical education by attending the hospitals in France and England ; and he returned to America in 1778.

Immediately on his return he joined the American army as a surgeon, and was in the expedition to Rhode-Island under Gen. Sullivan. Here he was in the same tent with John S. Sherburne, Esq., one of the general's aids, when a cannon ball from the enemy's battery took off the leg of the latter. He was in the disastrous expedition to Penobscot, which issued in the destruction of the whole fleet, and in the sacrifice of every thing beyond what each man could carry on his back. With his surgical instruments in his knapsack Dr. Swett was obliged to travel more than fifty miles through a trackless desert, from the Penobscot river to the nearest settlements on the Kennebec. His misfortune was felt the more severely, as he had just before met with the irreparable loss, by capture, of his professional manuscripts prepared by him with great care when in Europe, and his valuable library and surgical apparatus collected at great expense and trouble.

In the year 1780 he commenced practice as a physician and surgeon in Newburyport, induced by the urgent solicitations of several of the first characters in that place, to

whom his character was not unknown, and to some of whom he was allied by birth. Here his progress was rapid and successful. Almost every surgical case through a large circuit devolved upon him, and his medical practice soon became very extensive. Being naturally very social in his disposition, and an attractive, intelligent and entertaining companion, of polished manners, and ingenuous frankness and good humor, he was a general favorite, and, as may naturally be supposed, largely participated in social enjoyments. As a means of these he was much attached to the fraternity of freemasons, and particularly to those of the higher degrees, as affording at that period a more select society ; and it is believed that by his means the first encampment of Knights Templars in the United States was formed.\*

In the summer of 1796 the town of Newburyport was visited with that most deadly scourge of our seaport towns, the yellow fever. It was with Dr. Swett not less a point of honor than a commanding sense of duty, which led him on this trying occasion to devote himself, through life or death, to his suffering patients, who looked up to him with their habitual confidence as to their only earthly hope in this appalling moment of mortal disease. Disdaining to desert them in their extreme need, he was constantly at his post in the most infected district of the town, administering all the relief in his power, and exhausting all the resources of his professional skill, until the inevitable consequence ensued. He became himself infected with the incurable disease, and fell a martyr to his high sense of professional obligation. His death threw a gloom over the town, not to be described in words.

Soon after Dr. Swett fixed himself in Newburyport, he married Miss Charlotte Bourne, second daughter of the Hon. William Bourne of Marblehead, who survived him, and is now the wife of the Hon. John T. Gilman, many years governor of the state of New-Hampshire. Four sons of this marriage are now, 1827, living, and in respectable standing.

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\* In a historical account of Newburyport lately published, it is suggested that Dr. S. was, during his travels in Germany, initiated into the order of the Illuminati. He was never in Germany, nor was he ever a member of that order, which originated many years after his return from Europe. In the same work it is erroneously stated that he was a native of Newburyport.

Dr. Swett was an original member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and for several years after the incorporation of the latter was its Corresponding Secretary.—*D. A. T.*

SYKES, JAMES, M.D., was born of very respectable parents in the vicinity of Dover, county of Kent and state of Delaware, on the 27th of March, 1761. His father, whose name he received, held several important and honorable offices in the state, which evinces the standing he possessed in society; and the general satisfaction given by him in the performance of their duties, is a fair criterion by which to judge of his merit. He was repeatedly chosen as a member of the Privy Council; and, when the change was about to be effected in the administration of the government of the state, he was appointed one of the members of the convention which framed the present constitution. He attended the first meeting, at which the work was commenced; but previously to the second, when it was finished and adopted, it pleased Providence to remove him from this and all other earthly cares and honors, and therefore his name does not appear as one of the signers of that instrument, in the formation of which he had assisted.

Mr. Sykes, being desirous of giving his son a good education, and the best to be had at that time, sent him to the college at Wilmington, then deservedly in high repute. Here he continued for some time, diligently engaged in the study of ancient and modern literature; but this pleasing occupation was suddenly interrupted. This was during the dark and troubled period of the revolution, when many parts of our country were in subjection to, and at the mercy of a cruel and relentless enemy. The dreaded approach of such a foe to Wilmington, induced parents to take their children home, and the school was consequently broken up.

Doctor Sykes then returned to Dover, where he finished his education under the particular care of a gentleman distinguished for his literary and classical attainments, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, late pastor of St. Paul's church, Philadelphia, who resided at that time in Dover.

Having completed his classical studies he wisely selected that profession for which he was by nature eminently qualified, and commenced the study of medicine under the



direction of Dr. Clayton, an eminent physician who practised on Bohemia Manor. Medical science in this country was at this period only in its infancy ; and consequently the disciple of Hippocrates, having no written sources of information except a few foreign text books, was compelled, like his venerable father, to acquire knowledge principally from the lessons taught in the great book of nature. Although fully aware of the importance and value of experience, Dr. Sykes was equally sensible of the advantage to be derived from able and skilful instructors ; and therefore early availed himself of the additional opportunities for the acquisition of medical learning, afforded by an attendance on the lectures which were then delivered in Philadelphia, by those illustrious worthies, Shippen, Morgan, Kuhn and Rush. These gentlemen had, but a short time previous, laid the foundation of that superstructure, which in the course of a few years, by the combined exertions of such talents, science and learning, became the great luminary of the western world.

After having regularly and diligently attended two courses of lectures delivered with such eloquence and truth as were calculated to make a deep and permanent impression on the mind of an ardent votary of science, and to furnish him with a fund of medical knowledge on which he could rely, as it had been derived from the best and least fallible sources, Dr. Sykes left Philadelphia for the purpose of reducing these lessons to practice in the exercise of his highly honorable and useful profession. He located himself in Cambridge, on the eastern shore of Maryland, where his gentlemanly manners and correct deportment soon acquired him respect and esteem, and his talents and skill being properly appreciated he was speedily introduced into a respectable practice.

During his residence there he became acquainted with and married Miss Elizabeth Goldsborough, daughter of Robert Goldsborough, Esq. who still lives to lament that dispensation of Providence, which deprived her of one of the best of husbands, and society of one of its brightest ornaments.

After a residence in Cambridge of nearly four years he returned to Dover, to which, being the place of his nativity, he naturally felt strong ties and attachments. Here, in obtaining practice, he had to contend with a distinguished, though noble and generous rival, the late celebrated

and lamented Dr. Miller. To an enlightened and liberal mind the success and advancement of a professional brother are productive of pleasure rather than envy or ill will, and therefore these two gentlemen enjoyed an intimacy and fidelity of friendship, unfortunately too seldom experienced by rivals for eminence and fame, which continued firm and sincere until it was severed by the death of Dr. Miller.

Dr. Sykes had not resided long in Dover before he rendered himself conspicuous by the exercise of his surgical talents. For this branch of medicine he was by nature particularly qualified. To the decision of mind and steadiness of hand so indispensably necessary to a surgeon, he added such an intimate knowledge of the anatomy of the human structure as to prevent his ever feeling at a loss relative to the nature and position of the parts concerned in any operation. By the happy union of these qualities he was naturally inspired with that confidence, which alone can render the operator firm and collected in cases of emergency and hours of trial.

By the successful performance of several difficult operations, assisted by his close attention to his practice, and his pleasing address and kindness to those under his care, his reputation was speedily established, and consequently the sphere of his labors and usefulness rapidly extended; and it may be safely said that no physician in the state, perhaps ever, possessed a more extensive practice, or enjoyed in a more unlimited degree the confidence of his patients and the public.

Of Dr. Sykes's talents and success as a surgeon so many proofs have been given, with which you are all familiar, as to preclude the necessity of my enlarging much on the subject. Suffice it, therefore, to say that there were few operations in surgery which he had not repeatedly performed, and none for the performance of which he had reason to think he was not fully competent. In the operation of lithotomy, confessedly one of the most difficult and important in surgery, he particularly excelled. Of this we have the strongest evidence in the declaration of his intimate friend, the late Surgeon General of the armies of the United States, Dr. Tilton, who averred that in this operation he had no superior; and another gentleman, a graduate of the school of Edinburgh, who once assisted him in a case of this kind, gave a similar testimony, de-

claring that "by no surgeon, either in Europe or America, had he ever seen lithotomy more skilfully performed."

Although he was so well qualified for surgery, and paid particular attention to it, he was equally well calculated for and successful in the practice of medicine. He possessed emphatically that talent, by the want of which knowledge is rendered cold and genius inert ; the faculty of judgment, by which he was enabled to prescribe proper remedies in proper places, and constantly to alter and adapt his remedial measures to the ever varying and fluctuating condition of the system. Being a disciple of the school of Rush, and a follower and admirer of that great and distinguished physician, the pride and honor of his country, he always in his practice paid particular attention to the pulse, and placed great reliance on the information to be derived from it ; rejecting with merited contempt the observation of him who tells us, "it is never to be depended on and is only a fallacious guide." As a practitioner, he was bold and decided, never temporizing with diseases, nor waiting to cure them "by expectation ;" a practice forcibly and with no little propriety called "a meditation on death." But however fond he may have been of the heroic remedies, he knew their powers too well to use them without due discrimination and deliberative caution. And, if bold and decided in cases requiring it, he took care not to subject himself to the charge of violence or temerity.

There was one trait in his character as a practitioner particularly deserving of notice and imitation, which was, never in any case, no matter how desperate, to give up a patient whilst there remained even a possibility of effecting a cure. He would always resolutely contend with the ravages of disease until the last moment of a patient's existence, and frequently was rewarded by the renovation of the almost exhausted system, and the rescue of a fellow mortal who had been apparently in the arms of death.

In addition to his other good qualities Dr. Sykes possessed a humane and charitable disposition. Those whose poverty precluded all prospect of his receiving any compensation for his services, were not neglected, nor suffered to pine in misery and sigh for that relief which they were unable to purchase. He attended them faithfully, prescribed and furnished medicines for their diseases, and

often alleviated their wants by benevolent donations and kind assistance.

During his residence in Dover a circumstance occurred, which, on account of the attention excited by it at the time and the active part he took in it, is deserving of notice. I allude to the use and effects of the adulterated Peruvian bark. Bilious diseases, during the fall of which I speak, were unusually prevalent, and the Peruvian medicine consequently very freely and generally employed. Many severe and dreadful cases of colic, resembling colica pictorum, were met with about this time, some of which terminated in paralytic affections, blindness, and death. The appearance of such a terrible anomaly in medicine excited great and general consternation, and gave rise to a variety of theories and conjectures for its explanation. It was considered by some as yellow fever; and, from the violence of its symptoms and rapidity of its course, of an uncommonly malignant nature. By a close and attentive observation of its course, symptoms and causes, Dr. Sykes was happily led to a discovery, which, as he gave it immediate publicity, no doubt saved many lives. He observed that no persons were attacked with the disease who had not been using bark, and that an attack came on generally soon after the taking of a dose of that medicine. He therefore naturally inferred that the bark was productive of these serious and fatal effects, and, if so, that it must be adulterated with some deadly drug. By a cautious inspection of several samples of the article, he was enabled to detect the hidden cause of all the evil, discovering that semivitrified oxide of lead, litharge, had been mixed with the bark. On tracing the matter to its origin, it was found that a workman in one of the laboratories in Philadelphia, who had been employed in pulverizing the medicine, for which service he was paid so much per pound, had, in order to make it weigh heavier, thrown in occasionally the semivitrified oxide of lead, as above mentioned. In extenuation of this dreadful fraud the laborer urged his ignorance of the noxious powers of the drug, which he had added merely to benefit himself, certainly deceiving and imposing on his employer, but without any idea of its proving prejudicial to any other person.

Although so eminent in, and attentive to, his profession and its duties, Dr. Sykes was also endowed with the requisites for a politician and statesman. These qualifica-

tions and the reputation which he had ever possessed for political integrity, sincere love of country and veneration for its laws and institutions, being duly estimated by the people, rendered him very popular, and he was consequently chosen to fill several important and distinguished stations. He was repeatedly elected a member of the Senate, in which body he presided for a period of near fifteen years ; and during this time, by that office being vacated, he was elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people, being made Governor of the State. Whilst he held this situation he evinced, by his anxiety and care to fulfil all the duties attendant on it, his high opinion of the honor conferred upon him.

Feeling sensibly that the labor necessarily attendant on such political stations and an extensive practice, was too heavy and severe for one advancing in life ; knowing the impracticability of concentrating his practice, and thus diminishing his arduous toil, whilst he continued in Dover ; and being desirous of passing his declining years in more calmness and tranquillity than is possible for any physician who enjoys an extensive practice in the country, he determined on removing to a city. Considering New-York as presenting the best field for the exercise of his talents, and believing that merit would there receive its just reward, he in the year 1814, having made his arrangements for that purpose, removed there with his family.

Here he continued for several years, and, though so eminently qualified to figure in a metropolis, did not, it must be confessed, meet with that advancement and distinction to which his talents and attainments entitled him. The following observations of the great "Colossus of literature and Prince of biographers," in his life of the celebrated poet and physician, Akenside, apply with equal force and propriety in the present case, and may explain a circumstance which might be considered singular and unaccountable : speaking of Dr. Akenside's want of success in obtaining practice in London, the biographer adds, "A physician in a great city seems to be the mere plaything of fortune ; his degree of reputation is for the most part totally casual : they that employ him know not his excellence ; they that reject him know not his deficiencies."

After residing in New-York for a period of near six years, and feeling his ties and attachments to his native place

and former pursuits increased, rather than diminished, by this absence, he determined on returning to Dover. This he effected in the year 1820, to the great satisfaction of his friends, by whom he was received with sincere pleasure and unabated esteem and affection. Here he was again speedily introduced into practice ; but, in consequence of the impaired state of his health, he was under the necessity of resigning its principal duties and labor to his son, with whom he was associated.

Not long after his return to Dover the Medical Society lost its president by the death of Dr. James Tilton. The members of this institution, feeling the obligations they were under to Dr. Sykes, who was principally instrumental in the passage of that law by which they were enabled to prevent empiricism, and thus render their profession more useful and respectable, elected him to fill the chair of his lamented predecessor.\* This honor, however, he had not the pleasure of enjoying long, as he was called from all terrestrial duties within the short period of seven months after his appointment.

The following handsome tribute to the memory of our president is paid by an anonymous writer, in the Philadelphia Medical Journal : "As a social character, Dr. Sykes was almost unrivalled, and will be always remembered with the highest esteem by those who had the happiness to know him. The dignity of his deportment and the urbanity of his manners qualified him preëminently for shining in society ; whilst the generosity of his sentiments, hospitality and many other estimable virtues, made him universally beloved. One of his distinguishing traits evinces so much good feeling that it deserves to be commemorated. He was the friend and patron of youth ; and it always gave him pleasure when he could avail himself of his influence in promoting their prosperity. The value of such friendly services will be best appreciated by those who can revert, with grateful feelings, to the time when they stood in need of them. But if his many amiable and benevolent qualities endeared him so much to his friends, how shall we describe the full strength of his domestic ties ? The force of these will perhaps be best displayed by the simple recital of a distressing event. His only daughter, an amiable and accomplished young lady, who had just

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\* Medical Society of Delaware.

entered the gay and pleasing season of womanhood, was absent from home when her father died ; and only returned in time to behold his remains, before they received their last solemn rites. At the sight of the cold and lifeless clay she sunk to the earth, overpowered by a sense of desolation, and was carried to her bed from which she rose no more ; for a mortal blight had fallen on her spirits and withered the vital flower. Refusing both consolation and sustenance, she pined away, and in a few days followed her beloved parent to that grave which was at once the source and termination of her sorrow—a melancholy instance of the force of filial affection and the exquisite sensibility of the human heart.”

Dr. Sykes was from early life subject to occasional fits of wandering gout, to which disease there was an hereditary predisposition. He died on the 18th of October, 1822.

In concluding this imperfect sketch of the life of one who was an ornament to his profession and to society, I have the pleasure of being enabled to add that he was a full and firm believer in revelation and all the fundamental doctrines of the christian religion ; and that in his last illness, not long previous to his dissolution, he expressed, to his weeping relatives who surrounded his bed, his full conviction that his peace was made ; adding that he felt perfectly resigned and ready to die, if such was the will of Providence. How consoling should be the reflection, to those lamenting the death of the dearest relative or friend, that “ though his body may lie covered by the sod of the valley, his soul has taken its flight to celestial regions and dwells immortal, with its God.”—*Eulogium by J. Franklin Vaughan, M.D.*

TENNEY, SAMUEL, M.D. M.M.S.S. Hon., was the son of a respectable farmer of Rowley, Byfield parish, Massachusetts. At about eighteen years of age he commenced his studies preparatory for college under the celebrated Master Moody of Dummer school. He entered Harvard College in July, 1768 ; and, while an under graduate, gave honorable evidence of possessing a sound and discriminating mind. After leaving college he taught a school one year at Andover, and commenced the study of physic with Dr. Kittredge of that town.

About the beginning of the year 1775 he went to Exeter with the design of establishing himself as a physician ;

but, the war of the revolution soon after breaking out, he determined on joining the army. He reached the American camp on the day of the battle of Bunker's Hill ; and, though greatly fatigued with riding on horseback, was employed till a late hour of the night in attentions to the wounded. He was one year attached to the Massachusetts Line as mate to Dr. Eustis, late Governor of the commonwealth ; but afterward entered the Rhode-Island Line, in which he served as surgeon during the war. He of course moved with the army, was present at the surrender of Burgoyne and Cornwallis, and was prompt to every duty becoming his station. He volunteered his assistance in repelling the attack on the fort at Red Bank in the Delaware ; and in circumstances of imminent danger fought in the ranks. The assailants were driven back, and Count Donop, their commander, was mortally wounded and carried into the fort. When the Doctor approached to dress his wounds, the Count looked at him attentively in the face, and said " You look like an honest man, to you therefore I commit the care of my pocketbook."

At the close of the war Dr. Tenney returned to Exeter, where he married and settled ; but he did not resume the practice of medicine. In 1788 he was chosen a member of the convention for forming the constitution of the state of New-Hampshire. In 1793 he was appointed Judge of Probate for the County of Rockingham ; and continued in this office until, in 1800, he was elected a member of congress. To this station he was afterwards twice reelected. In 1816 he closed his valuable life.

Dr. Tenney was of a literary and philosophical turn, and was a member of several scientific societies ; he received from the University at Cambridge the honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine, and was elected an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. During the war he was stationed for several months at Saratoga, and paid considerable attention to the celebrated mineral waters of that place. In 1793 he communicated an account of them to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of which he was a member. This account was published in a volume of the society's Memoirs, and did much toward bringing the waters of Saratoga into general notice. In the same volume was also published the Doctor's " Theory of Prismatic Colors," which reduces the number of original colors to five. This theory, or one similar, is



beginning to be favorably noticed, or is already adopted, in France. For the Massachusetts Historical Society he furnished an historical and topographical account of Exeter, and a notice of the dark day of May 19th, 1780 ; and for the Massachusetts Agricultural Society he wrote a much approved treatise on Orcharding. Of both these societies he was a member. At various times he published valuable political essays in the newspapers, and particularly in 1788, in favor of the Federal Constitution, the adoption of which he strongly advocated. Among his unpublished writings is a very ingenious theory of the tides.

Dr. Tenney was an early and steadfast friend to his country ; and his name deserves an honorable place among the worthies who assisted in achieving its independence, and in establishing forms of state and national government adapted to promote its highest welfare. In all the public stations he held, he was distinguished for openness and integrity ; was never ashamed of his principles, nor afraid to avow them ; and always so cool and dispassionate as to conciliate the respect even of his adversaries. At one period of the war the regiment to which he belonged was unusually given to intoxication, and several deaths were caused by it. At the funeral of one of the victims, and with the approbation of the colonel, he delivered before the regiment a plain and serious discourse, which for a time had a very sensible effect.

In private life the doctor's character was eminently good. His personal dignity was great, while his manners were exceedingly plain. There was something very striking and noble in his countenance. His eyes were full and intelligent ; and his other features large and open : no man in Congress at the time had a better head. He made no professions of regard where he felt no regard : but at the same time was uncommonly free from resentments. He was an affectionate husband, a sensible and entertaining companion, a kind and peaceable neighbor, a sober and exemplary member of society. He took a deep and active interest in the education of the young ; and, though he had no children of his own, he laid more than one under obligations of gratitude for his paternal care.

Dr. Tenney was remarkably free from ostentation and pride, and could easily accommodate himself to the views, and wants, and interests of the humblest persons. He was the friend of the poor, and the orphan's disinterested and

faithful guardian. He loved, as well as patronised, the religious institutions of the Fathers ; was most punctual in attendance at public worship on the Sabbath ; and for several of the last years of his life was a member and an officer of the Second Congregational Church in Exeter. He honored the religion he professed, felt its sustaining influence in his last hours, and met death with a serenity and composure becoming a christian. One of his ancient and worthy neighbors observed to the writer at the time, " We have lost a fellow citizen who was without guile." Seldom has it fallen to the lot of any to sketch the life and character of a man, to whom the observation could be more justly applied.

It will be recollected by many that a singular phenomenon occurred in our New-England horizon, May 19th, 1780, emphatically called the dark day. This was by some among the ignorant and superstitious ascribed to a supernatural cause. From the pen of Dr. Tenney the Massachusetts Historical Society received a very ingenious and philosophical examination of the subject, which does much honor to the author. Dr. Tenney was decidedly of opinion that the phenomenon would admit of a rational and philosophical explanation, as follows. Previously to the commencement of the darkness, the sky was overcast with the common kind of clouds, from which there was in some places a light sprinkling of rain. Between these and the earth there intervened another stratum, apparently of very great thickness. As this stratum advanced the darkness commenced, and increased with its progress till it came to its height ; which did not take place till the hemisphere was a second time overspread. The uncommon thickness of this second stratum was probably occasioned by two strong currents of wind from the southward and westward, condensing the vapors and drawing them in a northeasterly direction. The lower stratum had an uncommon brassy hue, while the earth and trees were adorned with so enchanting a verdure as could not escape notice, even amidst the unusual gloom that surrounded the spectator. This gradual increase of the darkness from southwest to northeast, which was nearly the course of the clouds, affords a pretty good argument in favor of the supposition that they were condensed by two strong currents of wind blowing in different directions. To these two strata of clouds we may without hesitation impute the

extraordinary darkness of the day. Dr. T. proceeds with a philosophical eye to examine more minutely into the manner in which these clouds effected the extraordinary darkness ; but this must be omitted here. " The darkness of the following evening," says Dr. T., " was probably as gross as ever has been observed since the almighty fiat gave birth to light. It wanted only palpability to render it as extraordinary as that which overspread the land of Egypt in the days of Moses. And as darkness is not substantial, but a mere privation, the palpability ascribed to that by the sacred historian must have arisen from some peculiar affection of the atmosphere, perhaps an exceeding thick vapor, that accompanied it. I could not help conceiving at the time that, if every luminous body in the universe had been shrouded in impenetrable shades, or struck out of existence, the darkness could not have been more complete. A sheet of white paper, held within a few inches of the eyes, was equally invisible with the blackest velvet. Considering the small quantity of light that was transmitted by the clouds by day, it is not surprising that by night a sufficient quantity of rays should not be able to penetrate the same strata, brought back by the shifting of the winds, to afford the most obscure prospect even of the best reflecting bodies."

In the year 1811 Dr. Tenney addressed to Dr. Mitchell of New-York, for publication in the Medical Repository, " An Explanation of certain curious Phenomena in the Heating of Water." The celebrated Count Rumford in an " Inquiry into the Nature of Heat, and the Manner of its Communication" relates two experiments of which the authors of the British Review observe that " though they have sought for an adequate explanation of them, they are not a little embarrassing." However embarrassing to the British reviewers, the enlightened and sagacious mind of Dr. Tenney furnished a solution of the phenomena both philosophical and satisfactory, which may be seen in the Medical Repository for November, December and January, 1811 and 1812.

THACHER, DR. THOMAS, first minister of the Old South Church in Boston, was born in England, May 1st, 1620. His father was the Rev. Peter Thacher, minister at Sarum, who intended to come over to these new regions, but was prevented by the state of his family. Thomas had a good school education, and it was his fa-

ther's desire to send him to the University of Oxford or Cambridge ; but he declined, and came over to New England in 1635.

In a letter published by his uncle, Anthony Thacher, we learn how remarkably he was preserved from shipwreck. His friends sailed from Ipswich in the month of August for Marblehead, where Mr. John Avery, a worthy divine, was to settle. A terrible storm threw the vessel upon the rocks, most of the people perished, and Mr. Thacher was cast ashore on a desolate island. It bears his name to this day, as also a place is called Avery's Fall, where this good man perished. Thomas Thacher preferred to go by land, and escaped these dangers. He received his education from Mr. Chauncy, who was afterwards President of Harvard College. He studied not only what is common for youth to acquire, but also the oriental languages. He afterwards composed a Hebrew lexicon, and we learn from Dr. Stiles that he was a scholar in Arabic, the best the country afforded. Dr. Mather tells us that he was a great logician, that he understood mechanics in theory and practice, and that he would make all kinds of clock work to admiration. He was eminent in two professions. He was pastor of a church, and was ordained at Weymouth, June 2d, 1644. After some years, having married a second wife, who belonged to Boston, he left his parish at Weymouth, where he practised physic as well as preached, and was an eminent physician in Boston. He was considered as a great divine, and when a third church was founded in the town he was chosen their minister. Over this church he was installed February 16th, 1669, and in this station he continued till he died. The last sermon he preached, was for Dr. I. Mather, 1st Peter iv, 18. He afterwards visited a sick person, and was himself seized with a fever, and expired October 15th, 1678, aged 58 years.

As a preacher he was very popular, being remarkably fervent and copious in prayer. He was zealous against the Quakers, for he believed that their doctrines subverted the gospel, and led men into the pit of darkness under the pretence of giving them light.

He left two sons, who were by his first wife, the daughter of the Rev. Ralph Partridge of Duxbury. The eldest, Peter, was a famous minister in the neighborhood of Boston. Ralph was settled at Martha's Vineyard. He print-

ed very few of his productions, except his Hebrew lexicon and his catechism, each of which was on a sheet of paper, and his Guide in the Smallpox and Measles published in 1677, which was the first publication on a medical subject in America.

THOMAS, DR. JOHN, was born in the ancient town of Plymouth, Massachusetts, April 1st, 1758. His father, a respectable physician, having sustained the office of Surgeon in the French war in the expedition against Louisburgh, was at the dawn of the American revolution appointed Regimental Surgeon ; and his son, then seventeen years of age, accompanied his father as Surgeon's Mate. They joined the army at Cambridge in the spring of 1775. The infirmities of age and the claims of a large family induced the father to resign in 1776, when the son was promoted to the rank of regimental surgeon, in which station he served his country with reputation until the army was disbanded at the close of the war. It is honorable to this family that another son served as captain of a company of artillery during the whole war, and two others served a part of the time in the army. Soon after peace took place Dr. Thomas settled in the town of Poughkeepsie, in the state of New-York, where he continued in reputable and successful practice in his profession until his death in 1818.

Endowed with considerable powers of mind, and devoting himself to his official duties, Dr. Thomas overcame the difficulties of his youth and inexperience, and maintained high professional respectability ; in all his conduct he was honorable, just and benevolent. But for wit and humor he was unrivalled. Such were the fecundity and disposition of his mind, that on all occasions he was furnished with an inexhaustible fund of anecdote and song, which made him a welcome guest in every place. There was considerable originality in the display of his talents ; which, with the courteousness of his manners and his conviviality, won the esteem of gentlemen of high rank, and on one occasion, at the table of Washington, he excited an unusual degree of merriment and pleasantry.

THORNTON, DR. MATTHEW, was a native of Ireland, where he was born about the year 1714. He emigrated to this country with his father, and settled in the state of Connecticut, where he received an academical and medical education. He established himself in the

profession of medicine in Londonderry, in New-Hampshire, where he became conspicuous for professional skill, and the sphere of his usefulness was continually extending.

He was invested with the office of Justice of the Peace, and commissioned as Colonel of the militia under the royal government. But, when the political crisis arrived when that government in America was dissolved, Colonel Thornton abjured the British interest, and with a patriotic spirit adhered to the glorious cause of liberty. When in 1775 a provincial convention was formed for temporary purposes, he was elected their president. In this capacity we find him "in Provincial Congress, June 2d, 1775, addressing the inhabitants of the colony of New-Hampshire on the affairs of America, and in the affecting style of a true patriot painting the 'horrors and distresses of a civil war, which till of late we only had in contemplation, but now feel ourselves obliged to realize. Painful beyond expression have been those scenes of blood and devastation which the barbarous cruelty of British troops has placed before our eyes. Duty to God, to ourselves, to posterity, enforced by the cries of slaughtered innocents, have urged us to take up arms in our own defence.' He proceeded to advise and recommend such measures as the exigency of the times appeared to require, and closed by enjoining 'the practice of that pure and undefiled religion which embalmed the memory of our pious ancestors, as that alone upon which we can build a solid hope and confidence in the Divine protection and favor, and without whose blessing all the measures of safety we have or can propose, will end in our shame and disappointment.' "

The next year, on the 12th of September, Col. Thornton was chosen a delegate to the Continental Congress, and took his seat on the 4th of November following. Though not present when the declaration of independence passed that illustrious body, he acceded to it on his becoming a member, and his signature stands among the fifty-six worthies, who have immortalized their names by that memorable act. About the year 1776 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and not long after he was raised to the office of Judge of the Superior Court of New-Hampshire, in which office he remained till 1782. In the year 1780 he purchased a farm pleasantly situated on the banks of the Merrimac, near Exeter, and entered on

the business of agriculture in connexion with his other diversified occupations. Although advanced in life, whenever his professional services were required he cheerfully granted them, and they were at all times highly appreciated. He took an interest in the municipal affairs of the town, and he was elected a member of the general court one or two years, and a Senator in the state legislature, and served as a member of the Council in 1785 under President Langdon.

We are informed upon good authority that Dr. Thornton was a man of strong powers of mind, that he was capable of abstruse speculation, and that on any subject to which he directed his attention, he would elicit light and information. In private life he was one of the most companionable of men. The young and the old were alike sharers in the agreeable versatility of his powers, and in the inexhaustible stock of information which a long and industrious life had accumulated. His memory was well stored with a large fund of entertaining and instructive anecdotes, which he could apply upon any incident or subject of conversation. Judge Thornton wrote political essays for the newspapers after he was eighty years of age, and about this period of life prepared for the press a metaphysical work entitled *Paradise Lost, or the Origin of the Evil called Sin examined, &c.* This work was never published ; but those who have had access to the manuscript, pronounce it a very singular production.

He died while on a visit at Newburyport, Massachusetts, on the 24th of June, 1803, in the 89th year of his age. In the funeral sermon by Rev. Dr. Burnap we are furnished with the following sketch. "He was venerable for his age and skill in his profession, and for the several very important and honorable offices he had sustained ; noted for the knowledge he had acquired, and his quick penetration into matters of abstruse speculation ; exemplary for his regard for the public institutions of religion and for his constancy in attending the public worship, where he trod the courts of the house of God with steps tottering with age and infirmity. Such is a brief outline of one who was honored in his day and generation ; whose virtues were a model for imitation, and while memory does her office will be had in grateful recollection."—*New-Hampshire Historical Collections.*

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TILLARY, JAMES, M.D. was a native of Scotland, and his contemporaries and associates at school testify that he was even then regarded as a youth of promise, and at that early period of his life was characterised by that integrity and virtue which marked the remainder of his days. Having laid the usual foundation of classical learning, in which his attainments were very respectable, and having received some preliminary medical knowledge in the north of Scotland, he enjoyed the benefit of a course of instruction at the great medical school of Edinburgh. Although he did not remain at the university the time prescribed to obtain its honors, he assiduously attended the various lectures, which qualified him for the station he soon afterwards obtained, that of a surgeon in the army of Great Britain. In that capacity, at an early period of the revolutionary war, he first came to this country, which he made the permanent place of his residence.

Shortly after his arrival in the city of New-York he assumed the character of a practitioner of medicine and surgery. To the former branch, however, he principally confined his attention, and for more than forty years exercised its responsible and important duties, and displayed abundant evidence of his professional merit and skill. The various qualifications which adorned his professional character, were duly appreciated by the Medical Society of the County of New-York, of which he was a conspicuous member, and where he also for many years occupied the most elevated station in their power to bestow, being their president. But says his biographer, Dr. Hosack, "I must nevertheless be permitted to bear my testimony to his merit as a practitioner of the healing art. He seemed by nature to be peculiarly capacitated for the exercise of the medical profession; and the education which he had received was sufficient to elicit the native energies of his mind for that purpose. He was a substantial classical scholar; his reading of medical authors was limited, but judicious; among these, Sydenham and Huxham were his favorites. He was a patient and close observer at the bedside of the sick; he reflected; and his decisions evinced the solidity of his understanding. Few men surpassed him in strength of judgment; and this qualification of the head gave him that elevated station among many of his fellow practitioners, which he so long and deservedly enjoyed. He was sceptical of novelty in medical prescrip-



tions, and slow in adopting new methods of cure. He carefully observed the progress of disease, he discovered its nature, and was bold and energetic in his principles of treatment. He was confident of his own practical knowledge, and inspired a corresponding confidence in those for whom he prescribed. Few men performed their duty to their patients with more fidelity. He spared no pains in collecting all the symptoms from which the disease might be ascertained, and the corresponding remedies directed for its removal.

“During those memorable visitations of God’s providence in 1795 and 1798, when pestilence spread its devastation in our cities, though fully conscious of impending danger, he abode in the city of New-York, and no consideration whatever could induce him to swerve from his duty ; a faithful sentinel, he remained at his post. Amidst the distressing and fatal ravages of yellow fever Dr. Tillary spared no exertions that could contribute to the comfort of his suffering fellow citizens. He visited and attended with unceasing assiduity all who called for his professional services, without reserve ; and it may be added that to the poor and forsaken, from whom no recompense could be expected, his labors were for the most part devoted ; the more wealthy, who were able to remunerate him, having chiefly abandoned the city, then the scene of desolation. His perseverance and his fortitude during those anxious and melancholy seasons were not forgotten by his fellow citizens ; for the important services he thus performed to the community, he was afterwards rewarded by the honorable office of resident physician, the duties of which, though full of hazard and responsibility, were performed with that fidelity which correct principles of conduct must ever secure. In relation to medical decorum he was a pattern of excellence to his professional brethren ; with reference to the rights and feelings of the junior members in particular, his conduct was peculiarly delicate and honorable.

“As a citizen of this republic it is observed that, while he remembered with becoming feelings the land of his forefathers, he possessed an ardent attachment to his adopted country. He admired the genius and nature of our social, political and religious institutions. He was not an indifferent spectator of passing events, and in that species of

knowledge which is acquired by intercourse with the world, he was excelled by few."

Dr. Tillary was the President of the St. Andrew's Society in the city of New-York, and discharged its duties with distinguished ability and universal satisfaction. As the physician of that charitable institution, an office which he filled for many years, he manifested disinterested generosity in his medical attention to the indigent poor who were the objects of its charity.

"It may be asked, had the deceased no failings? He had his failings, but they were of that minor character, that are inseparable from our nature: he was human, and he erred. Let those who delight to dwell upon the shade of human character, search out the frailties of our deceased brother; for ourselves, we can shed the tear for his weakness, and abundantly rejoice at his numerous excellences. It is with great satisfaction that the writer speaks of his christian virtues; they are a proper topic, for they made up a large portion of his character and ought not to be omitted. On this momentous subject he has not left the world to doubt of his religious creed. He has long, both in public and private, evinced his faith and his hope, and has declared his firm belief in the great truths of the christian religion; a belief arising not merely from those impressions which an early pious education leaves upon the mind, but from a careful examination of the evidences upon which it has been embraced by most of the distinguished men who have adorned the world. His course of reading on religious subjects was extensive; the volume of nature, too, he consulted with additional strength to those opinions which he had derived from revelation, and he adds another happy example to the many already on record, of the possession of sound christian principles by a member of a profession in which religious scepticism is too generally and most erroneously supposed to abound. To the christian philanthropist, moreover, it is consoling to reflect that at a time when, to use the language of an eloquent American divine, 'scepticism is breathing forth its pestilential vapor and polluting by unhallowed touch things divine and sacred, so many of the great and the wise, as if touched with an impulse from heaven, appear as the advocates of christianity,' and present, with one accord, their learning, their talents, and their virtues, as an offering on the altar of religion. Religious consolation, while





JAMES TILTON M.D.

it supported him in life, shed a ray of glory around the dying bed of our deceased brother, and in his latter moments, to the exclusion of every other concern, claimed all his thoughts. In the records of those eminent men who have supported the medical character of our country, Dr. Tillary will maintain a highly respectable rank ; and, while talents, inflexible integrity and distinguished virtue are held in remembrance, his memory will be cherished by his fellow men, especially by that society of his native and adopted country, with whom he was so long and so intimately connected."—*Funeral Address, by David Hosack, M.D.*

TILTON, JAMES, M.D., was born of respectable parents in the County of Kent, State of Delaware, on the first day of June, in the year 1745. His father died when he was but three years of age, and left him, with but a very slender provision, to the care of his mother. To the precepts and example of his surviving parent he always attributed his religious impressions, and his success and rapid advancement in life. In this respect our deceased friend was by no means singular. In every age and in every christian country, the powerful influence which an early pious education exerts through life, is strongly and incontestably evinced. To a mother's province this duty peculiarly belongs ; and I may affirm with confidence that there are few amongst us, who can look back upon the days of their childhood without acknowledging their obligations to a mother, for having implanted in their minds some great moral principle.

His classical studies were pursued at Nottingham, Chester County, Pennsylvania, under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Finley, who was afterwards President of Princeton College. Dr. Tilton appears to have pursued the study of the languages with great success. He was particularly fond of the Latin poets ; and to his early attachments may be attributed, in some measure, his fondness, at a much more recent period, for a rural life. Who amongst his friends can forget the satisfaction he derived from repeating the fascinating descriptions of its scenes and pleasures as portrayed by the Mantuan bard ?

After leaving Nottingham he commenced the study of medicine under Dr. Ridgely of Dover in this state, and finished his education in the Medical School at Philadelphia, which was established in the year 1765, principally

by the combined exertions of Drs. William Shippen and John Morgan, two of the most eminent physicians of that day.

From the best information which I can obtain, Dr. Tilton was graduated with the first class in this school upon which the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred. Dr. Wistar, the late celebrated Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, in his Eulogium on Dr. Shippen, makes the following remarks: "Dr. Adam Kuhn and Dr. Benjamin Rush, who had been appointed professors, lectured several years very successfully on *Materia Medica* and Chemistry; several graduations of Bachelors of Medicine had taken place. James Tilton of Delaware,\* J. Ellmer of N. J., the late J. Potts, and the late N. Way, had taken the degree of M.D." The high standing which he acquired whilst pursuing his studies in Philadelphia, is strongly evinced by the intimacies which he formed there, and which in after life ripened into friendship. The late Dr. Rush always spoke of him with respect and esteem, and the fact is incontestable that he was offered a professorship in this University, which is now unrivalled in our country, if not equal to any in the old world. This high and deserved honor he declined, fearing that it might interfere with his duties to his country, whose cause he had then ardently espoused, and whose liberties he had determined to assist in effecting, or perish in the struggle.

After completing his studies at Philadelphia he returned to his native state, and commenced the practice of medicine in the town of Dover. He was enabled to do this under more auspicious circumstances, in consequence of the pecuniary help and countenance which were afforded him by Thomas Collins, his friend and relative, who was afterwards Governor of Delaware, and distinguished for his talents, urbanity of manners, and great respectability of character. Of this strong proof of confidence Dr. Tilton frequently spoke in his usual forcible terms, such as were peculiarly adapted to express his gratitude, which was one of the virtues that combined to distinguish his character from, and exalt it above that of other men. He

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\* The Thesis which he defended on being graduated as Bachelor of Medicine, was on Respiration. In 1771 he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. His dissertation was in Latin, and, as required by the laws of the college, was published: the subject was Dropsy.

soon obtained a high standing and deserved eminence in his profession, and pursued the practice of it with success and reputation. In this, as in every other pursuit, his soul, as towering as his stature, never stooped to unfair means to further his views. He was a generous rival ; disdaining low artifice, he invariably treated his medical brethren with respect and generosity ; honor and a conscientious rectitude of intention, by which he invariably regulated his conduct, forbade him to descend to those means which always mark the base and illiberal. He continued in practice until the year 1776, the year in which America was declared free and independent, a year sacred to freedom. He now combined the characters of patriot and physician. Being strongly impressed with the enthusiasm of the times, he relinquished a lucrative profession, his friends and his home. He entered as a surgeon the Delaware regiment, with \$ 25 a month, and connected his own with the doubtful fortunes of his country. He continued with the regiment during the campaign ; was with it at the battles of Long Island and White Plains ; and had the mortification to accompany the American army in the celebrated retreat, when driven by a superior and relentless enemy from the North river to the Delaware. He was then ordered to Wilmington with such of the soldiers as had escaped with their lives from the inclemency of the season, their hardships and exposures, and the swords of the foe, but who were unable to do duty. He was quartered in this town during the winter, and was fully employed in rendering those kindnesses to his wretched wounded countrymen, for which he was so eminently qualified by his disposition and profession.

Before the next campaign opened, without any solicitation on his part, he was called to the hospital department in the army. The greatest disorder existed here, and the mortality of the soldiers was almost unprecedented. The system which had been adopted, rather invited and produced diseases, than cured them. The purveyorship of the hospital and the medical department, properly so called, were invested in the same persons. In speaking of the monstrous absurdity of this arrangement, Dr. Tilton says, "I mention it, without a design to reflect on any man, that in the fatal year 1777, when the Director General had the entire direction of the practice in our hospitals, as well as the whole disposal of the stores, he was interested in the

increase of sickness and the consequent increase of expense, as far at least as he would be profited by a greater quantity of money passing through his hands." And again, "It would be shocking to humanity to relate the history of our General Hospital in the years '77 and '78; when it swallowed up at least one half of our army, owing to a fatal tendency in the system to throw all the sick of the army into the general hospital; whence crowds, infection and consequent mortality, too affecting to mention."

In the year 1777 the British advanced to Philadelphia; and he directed the hospitals at Princeton, New-Jersey, where he narrowly escaped with his life from an attack of hospital fever. His sufferings from this disease must have been of a most distressing kind; and his recovery was almost a miracle. At one period of his disease eleven surgeons and mates, belonging to the hospital, gave him over, and only disputed how many days he should live. Providence ordered otherwise. To his friend the late Dr. Rush, and the attention of a benevolent lady in the neighborhood he chiefly attributed his recovery, which was slow and painful. The cuticle scaled off from his skin, his hair gradually combed from his head, and, to use his own forcible language, he was reduced to "skin and bone." It was nine months before he was again fit for active duty. As soon as he was able to travel he returned to Delaware, and visited on his way the different hospitals at Bethlehem, Reading, Manheim, Lancaster and Newport, which he found generally in a state of great disorder. His experience enabled him to remedy many of the defects, and to arrest in some measure the mortality which existed. In the campaigns of '78 and '79 he directed the hospitals in Trenton and New Windsor. All his contemporaries bore ample testimony to the able and indefatigable manner in which he performed the duties of hospital surgeon. In the hard winter of '79 and '80 he made the experiment of "the hospital huts"; the hint he took from Marshal Saxe. His improvements exceeded his most sanguine calculations; they consisted in having an earthen floor, instead of wood, with a hole in the centre of the roof for the purpose of allowing the smoke to escape from the fire, which was made in the middle of the hut.

So deep was his conviction of the absurdity and inhumanity of the existing hospital arrangements, that in the year '81 he determined to resign his situation in the army,



unless they were radically changed. He visited Philadelphia for the purpose, and delivered to the Medical Committee of Congress his observations in writing, pointing out the leading principles to be observed in forming a plan for conducting military hospitals. Although they were acknowledged to be correct, Congress was so much engaged with other business, that this was not immediately attended to.

About this period a financier was appointed to examine into and report a plan for the general reform of the army, and was also instructed to direct his attention to the medical department. To this gentleman Dr. Tilton applied in person, and submitted to him his views and observations, by whom they were approved, and he had the satisfaction to obtain his assurance that he would immediately report upon the subject. The observations submitted in writing by Dr. Tilton, were placed in the hands of Drs. John Jones, Hutchinson and Clarkson, and they perfectly coincided in opinion with him. He was called into their consultations, and his principles were so far established as to constitute the great outlines of hospital arrangement and practice from that time to the present day. The complete success of his exertions tended greatly to increase the high and deserved standing which he had acquired with the army and the public.

About this time he was elected a Professor in the University of Pennsylvania, to which I have already referred ; which office he declined from motives of the purest and most high minded patriotism. He accompanied the American army to Virginia, where he had the satisfaction of being present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, which was soon followed by a full acknowledgment of the liberty and independence of his country.

When the army was disbanded he returned to his native state, and recommenced the practice of medicine in Dover, in 1782. He had exhausted his pecuniary resources during the war, and, like many others, was paid for his faithful services in the depreciated certificates of the United States, which were of little more use than to remind him of the honorable part he had taken in the struggle which had terminated so propitiously. His patriotism still supported him, and he applied himself with increased assiduity to his profession. He was a member of the Old Congress in '82, and was elected repeatedly as a member

of the State Legislature, which assured him that his fellow citizens delighted to honor the man who had devoted his time and talents to their service.

He had just reestablished himself in practice, and was about acquiring that independence and easy competence which was his only ambition, as related to matters of a pecuniary kind, when the unhealthy climate of Kent began to make such inroads upon his constitution, that he was obliged to "fly for his life" to the hills of New Castle county. He established himself in this place, where he soon obtained his full share of practice, and secured to an unusual degree the confidence of the people. The profits of his profession, together with the emoluments of the office of Commissioner of Loans, made him easy in his circumstances, and enabled him to enjoy the society of his friends, which was always peculiarly agreeable to him. Soon after this period a change took place in the general government, to whose measures Dr. Tilton was at that time conscientiously opposed; and, acting fully up to those high principles which always regulated his conduct, he resigned his office, and devoted himself with more ardor to the practice of medicine and to the pleasures of horticulture, of which he was particularly fond.

His medical fame was established on so broad and substantial a basis, as to defy the ravages of time or the machinations of the envious and malicious. As he advanced in his profession, he was peculiarly fond of assisting merit and genius whenever an opportunity offered. To young practitioners he was uncommonly kind and indulgent; instead of opposing, he assisted their exertions; when he could with propriety, he took them by the hand, and recommended them to the support and patronage of the public; if their promise did not entitle them to this signal display of generosity, he most studiously refrained from saying any thing which might, in the most remote manner, militate against their advancement. He doubtless met with some who returned his kindness with ingratitude; but there were others, who ever remembered this friend of their youth with feelings of respect and esteem. I would here mention a strong instance of the display of the noble qualities which adorn our nature, as occurred in the case of the late celebrated Dr. Edward Miller of New-York. By the assistance and patronage of Dr. Tilton he was enabled to overcome the difficulties which surround-

ed him in early life. He was not only advised as a friend, but he was invited to commence the practice of medicine in the same town with himself. He there began that professional career which terminated with so much honor to himself, to his native state, and was so highly gratifying to his benefactor, of whose numerous acts of liberality and friendship he always spoke in the strongest terms of regard and veneration.

As a physician, Dr. Tilton was bold and decided; he never temporized with disease. His remedies were few in number, but generally of an active kind. He considered the functions of the skin of the very first importance, and his remedies were generally directed to restore them to a healthy state, when deranged. There were few physicians who possessed more candor or exercised it to a greater extent towards their patients than Dr. Tilton. When interrogated, he would freely express his opinion as to the nature and probable issue of a disease, whether favorable or otherwise, however unpalatable it might be. He never visited or dosed the sick unnecessarily, thereby picking their pockets, as he justly termed it, and from this cause he was more frequently dismissed from families than from any other. He had no secrets in medicine, he was superior to any and every species of quackery. He certainly stood at the head of his profession in this state; his naturally strong and discriminating mind peculiarly fitted him for consultations, and for many years before his death scarcely a case of any consequence occurred within the circle of his practice, in which more than one physician was necessary, but his advice was requested.

After practising medicine with uncommon success and reputation for several years in Wilmington, he purchased and improved a small farm in its vicinity, to which he removed, and indulged his taste for horticulture. In this situation, noted for his hospitality to all who visited his friendly roof either for the benefit of his advice and experience or the pleasures of social intercourse, he was found at the commencement of the late war, in 1812.

Although for several years preceding this period he had retired in a great measure from the busy pursuits of the world and the active duties of his profession, he had the high honor conferred upon him, of being appointed Physician and Surgeon General of the army of the United States. He was fully sensible of the distinguished confi-

dence thus reposed in him by his government ; yet it was not without deep reflection and no little hesitation, that he eventually determined to accept the appointment, which he did, after receiving assurances that his office should be chiefly ministerial, and his residence principally at Washington.

In July, 1813, he commenced a journey to the northern frontier, and examined all the Hospitals in his route ; he arrived at Sackett's Harbor in August of the same year. He found here, as he often said, the filthiest encampment that he had ever seen, and the mortality was as great as he had ever known it during the war of the revolution. He immediately requested a Medical Board, with a field officer to preside ; this was granted, and the salutary change, made in the main army according to the principles laid down in his printed work upon Military Hospitals, soon extended itself along the whole lines from Lake Erie to Lake Champlain. The wholesome provisions which he introduced, soon arrested the mortality and destroyed the infection of the "Lake Fever," as it was called, which had become so alarming as to threaten the destruction of the whole army, and put an entire stop to enlistments.

In the spring of 1814 he again contemplated a visit to the Northern frontier, passing the range of hospitals on the sea coast, to go by Plattsburgh to the Lakes. In this he was disappointed in consequence of an obstinate tumor which made its appearance in his neck ; and in July a more formidable disease affected his knee, which rendered locomotion extremely difficult, and from which he suffered the most acute and agonizing pain. This disease rapidly increased, and in 1815, to preserve his life, it became necessary to amputate the limb above the knee joint ; the operation was performed on the 7th of December in that year. To an intimate friend who was present, whilst the surgeon was taking off the limb, he spoke of it as the greatest trial to which he had ever been exposed. But his religion and fortitude did not desert him on this trying occasion ; when he had once made up his mind to submit to it, he remained as firm as the pyramid in the tempest, and, whilst his friends sympathized around him, he calmly gave directions to the surgeon and medical assistants. This fact alone, when we consider his age which was then upwards of seventy, and his previous sufferings, incontestably proves his mind to have been one of no common

texture. An intimate friend of his who was present on this painful occasion, after speaking of the extraordinary firmness with which he bore the operation, says "for several days and nights after the amputation, I had the gratification of watching with and comforting him in his lonely, dreary, bachelor's abode, where the balm of female tenderness and sympathy never mitigated a pang, nor compensated for a woe, but where masculine aids, rough as they are, were alone employed to sooth and cheer the scene."

Although Dr. Tilton never married, he was always a strong advocate for this happy condition of man. He was an ardent admirer of the fairest and best part of creation, and, whatever might have been his disappointments in early life, he never allowed them to warp his judgment or vitiate his taste. The high regard and esteem which this class of his patients always entertained for him, whilst in the practice of his profession, speak volumes in his favor. And I would fain believe that there are some who have not forgotten the good "old bachelor," and recollect with mournful pleasure the satisfaction they enjoyed whilst partaking of his virgilian suppers.

Dr. Tilton was fond of young company, and took a deep interest in the success in life of the rising generation. He was as mindful of posterity as if he had been surrounded by a family of his own. From most old persons he differed materially as it regarded his opinion of the times and generation in which he lived. Instead of inveighing against the manners and customs of the age, he rose superior to such illiberality, and bore ample testimony to the improvements which are making in the arts and sciences, the advancements of religion, and the rapid march of liberal principles in politics. Indeed he was so well pleased with his own times that he often declared, when quite advanced in life, that, could he have had his choice of the different periods of the world, he would have selected the present in which to live.

Our deceased friend was a real christian. He was intimately acquainted with the scriptures; and, although he had frequently perused them, and regulated his conduct according to their principles as far as his imperfect nature would permit, yet during the latter period of his life they became his principal study, and from them he derived those consolations which enabled him to bear disease with-

out a murmur and to meet death without being conscious of his sting. The vicarious righteousness of Christ, his favorite doctrine, he was fond of introducing in conversation upon proper occasions, as well for the benefit of his fellow beings, as for the glory of the author of this system of faith. His religion was of that ennobling sort which testifies to its own worth. His feelings ran naturally in the channel of devotion ; and he reposed upon the scheme of salvation as the resting place ordained by the Deity for the soul of man.

Dr. Tilton departed this life on the 14th of May, 1822, having lived seventy-seven years, wanting seventeen days ; on the very day of the last annual meeting of this Society, whose President he had been for many years, and at the reorganization of which no man could have been better pleased. He considered its resuscitation, with its enlarged powers, as constituting a new era in the medical history of his native state. He was one of the earliest members of our Society, and soon became one of its highest ornaments.

His friend Mr. J. Bellach, in whose arms he died, in giving me an account of his death, writes thus : " I arrived at Dr. Tilton's at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and at 4, the good old gentleman bade adieu to this world. His mental faculties were not perceptibly impaired by his last illness, nor did he appear to suffer much, if any pain. I felt a peculiar, though certainly a melancholy satisfaction, in witnessing the peaceful exit, and in closing the eyes of this long tried and faithful friend of my father, and of my father's house ; the man of whom I have the earliest recollection ; whom I was taught from my cradle to love and to honor, as I have done at all times and upon all occasions, most cordially.

" In whatever view we may consider the character of Dr. Tilton, we shall find many traits to distinguish him from other men. He was in many respects an original ; wholly unlike most other men in person, countenance, manners, speech, gesture and habits. His height was about six feet and a half, and his structure slender. His face is admirably portrayed in a painting taken by Otis, and now in the possession of his nephew, Dr. James Tilton. Whether he walked or sat still ; whether in conversation or mute ; whether he ate, drank or smoked ; whether in a grave mood, or indulging in his loud laugh, all was in a style

peculiar to himself and most remarkable." For honesty and frankness he was proverbial ; in these important points he had few equals, certainly no superiors. His whole life afforded a luminous example of the effects of deep rooted principles and moral rectitude upon the conduct of men ; and we have the fullest assurance to believe that he has reached those realms of peace and happiness, from which he can never be separated ; and has become the " just man, made perfect."—*Eulogy to the memory of Dr. Tilton delivered before the Medical Society of Delaware, by A. McLane, M.D.*

The following from Dr. James Mease may be added to the foregoing.

Dr. Tilton suffered severely by the hospital fever, which, for some months after the cessation of the morbid action in his corporal system, affected his mental faculties, and produced a mild derangement, but from which he entirely recovered. He built a neat stone mansion on a high hill in the rear of Wilmington, and amused himself by attending to the cultivation of his farm and a large garden. In 1776 he was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society. Dr. Tilton was a sincerely pious man, and lived and died a bachelor. But he revered the marriage life, and once told me that he thought the most pleasing sight in the world was a man quietly sitting by his fire side with his wife and children. He was of a tall thin habit, dark hair, dark complexion and of a very cheerful disposition ; enjoyed a merry story and hearty laugh.

Dr. Tilton's publications were 1. Economical Observations on Military Hospitals ; a very judicious performance, highly approved by Dr. Rush :\* 2. A paper on the Curculio Insect which for several years past has proved so destructive to the Fruit in the United States : 3. a paper on Peach Trees and the Diseases and Insects to which they are subject : 4. On the Propriety of a Farmer living on the Produce of his own Land. This last is a very interesting paper, and should be read by every farmer. He contended strenuously for the affirmative of the proposition, and that farmers should reject the use of all foreign articles, particularly tea and coffee. His own practice was

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\* 1. A pamphlet. 2. See Dr. Mease's edition of Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia. 3. Memoirs of Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, Vol. I. 4. Do. Vol. III.

in strict conformity to the views he promulgated, for he assures us "he does not own either tea cups or saucers, and yet is at no loss to entertain his friends agreeably." As a bachelor Dr. T. could easily indulge in his rejection of all foreign commodities ; but it would be somewhat difficult to copy his practice where a lady is to be consulted ; neither would it be desirable to do so, even if she agreed to the disuse of articles which have become of the first necessity, and could be no more dispensed with than beef or mutton. 5. Answers to Queries on the State of Husbandry in the Delaware state.\* The queries had been proposed by the Abbè Tepier, of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, and were published by them ; they were intended to obtain information on the mode of farming, and general state of agriculture by the Consul General of France, Mons. de Marbois. The number of queries was forty-four ; Dr. Tilton was the only person who complied with the request of the society to answer them.

The following is an extract of a letter from Dr. T. to a friend, dated Williamsburgh, 16th December, 1781.

After the departure of General Washington the French quartered themselves upon the people of this and some other towns, a la mode militaire, and gave no small offence ; but they are now dancing them into a good humor again by a ball every week. I had myself a petite guerre with a French officer, by which I was turned out of my quarters, and consequently came off but second best. Being summoned before Count Rochambeau to answer for my rebellious conduct, I received a long lecture on the subject of politeness to friends and allies, with intimations of his power to punish obstinacy. Although I was put into quarters equally good with those I was compelled to leave, I must confess I did not perfectly understand the French politeness in the mode of exchange. The old count, I believe, has either forgot or forgiven me, as a day or two ago he gave me an invitation to dine with him. It must be mortifying to our poor fellows to observe the comfortable and happy life of French soldiers. They appear on parade every day like fine gentlemen, as neat as their officers, and hardly to be distinguished from them. They are paid once a week, and by their happy countenance appear to want nothing. A sentinel is not allowed



to stand upon duty without a warm watch coat in addition to his other clothing. The officers treat the soldiers with attention, humanity and respect, and appear to employ all the means necessary to inspire them with sentiments of honor. Except some horse jockeying and plundering, at the reduction of York, I have heard of no stealing among them. Theft is said to be a crime held in universal abhorrence by them. I have not seen or heard of any instance yet of a French soldier being whipped. Their desertions, I believe, have been rare, and their sickness but little.

TREVETT, SAMUEL R., M. D. M.M.S.S., Surgeon in the navy of the United States. He was born at Marblehead, in the county of Essex, State of Massachusetts, in the year 1783. He was the son of Captain S. R. Trevett, who commanded a company of artillery, and was distinguished for his coolness and gallantry on the memorable 17th of June, 1775, at the battle of Bunker's Hill; and who is still living in the service of his country, an active, intelligent and honorable gentleman.

Dr. Trevett received the rudiments of his education at Exeter, under the care of that excellent instructor, Benjamin Abbott, Esq., to whom New-England owes much for his assiduity and talent in forming the minds and fixing the morals of her youth. This pupil of his entered Harvard University in the year 1800, and was graduated in 1804. Among his classmates Trevett was noticed for his modesty, intelligence and affectionate disposition. Most of his college acquaintance were his fast friends, and not one of them his enemy. The best judges of the head and heart of a young man are found among his contemporaries and competitors, for they form their opinions of character before the distinctions of the world have influenced or corrupted their judgments.

On leaving college Trevett pursued his professional studies with Dr. Holyoke of Salem, and completed his medical education with the late Dr. John Warren; with both of these great men he was a favorite pupil, which alone was sufficient to introduce him to notice and attention. He commenced his professional course in Boston; but, being naturally of a chivalrous cast of character, he sought and readily obtained an appointment in the medical department of the navy. He preferred this situation, which promised variety and incident, to the most flattering prospects of city practice. At this time his imagina-

tion was prolific in calling up the brightest visions of the future glories of the American Navy, and, although retiring and cautious on other topics, he was enthusiastic and eloquent on this. With these sentiments, he with all his soul united his fortunes and his fame to the navy. All who have been under his professional care, from the proudest officer to the humblest sailor, have borne testimony to his fidelity, zeal and ability in the discharge of his duty at home, on shipboard and abroad ; every where, and in all situations in which he could do good, his exertions were not wanting. He was in the *Constitution* during her cruise just before the last war, and then had an opportunity to show his skill, humanity and assiduity in attending the sick, while a distressing and malignant disease was raging among her officers and crew. He was on board the *Frigate United States* when she captured the *Macedonian* ; and also in the *President* when she was captured by a British Fleet, and after this event he followed the sick and wounded until they were healed or returned to our shores. Wherever he acted he conquered the hearts of those around him, above or below him. Hull has certified his distinguished merits ; Lawrence and Perry loved him ; and Decatur requested his professional attention when he was about to finish with a sad catastrophe the last scene in the eventful drama of a gallant life. Trevett arrived when it was too late to remonstrate or advise.

As a politician he never suffered his opinion to interfere with his duty ; as a moralist he never yielded to situation or accident ; and even pecuniary temptations, which often assail men with much violence, were powerless when opposed to his invincible integrity. He shrunk from no danger, however appalling, when he could do good to his fellow men. One instance of this exalted cast of mind, among many which might be named, should never be forgotten. He was a passenger in the steam boat *Phenix*, which was burned on lake Champlain, on the night of the 5th of September, 1819. He was among the first alarmed by the cry of fire ; coming on deck he saw the general danger, and calmly took the lead in preparing the smaller boat for the safety of the passengers, and assisted the ladies to get into it, which was no easy task, for they were wild and frantic with fear, and rushed together in confusion to leave the scene of horror. He decided when

she was full and could take no more of them with their husbands and friends. He then cut the rope which held her to the side of the burning vessel, and cast her off without making any effort for his own personal safety, and until all the passengers had left the deck he never took heed for himself. At this moment he saw a woman who had returned from the small boat to get some valuables she had left in the cabin, but she had gathered them too late, for when she came on deck the boat had gone. She gazed on the scene with an inexpressible look of despair, and in silence precipitated herself back into the cabin to perish. Dr. Trevett, at this crisis alone on the deck, cast his eye on the water and saw another small boat partly full of men. The crew and a few others had taken this boat, and kept still that it might not be overloaded ; she had met with some difficulty in getting clear of the vessel. He threw himself among them. He then examined the boat ; and, finding she had the capacity of carrying several more people than she had taken, he used every argument and persuasion to induce his companions to stop and look for some of the unfortunate persons who were in the water, and that there were many in this situation he had no doubt, but selfishness and fear were opposed to his benevolent entreaties, and they would not stay an instant ; but when they had reached the land he found men to go back with him in the same boat, and they had the good fortune to rescue several from destruction, who had been struggling for a long time in the water. In the first account which reached us of this sad disaster, it was stated that Dr. Trevett had perished in the flood or the flames, but Providence had not so destined him to die. Such exertions of disinterested benevolence, and such bravery, have no parallel in the hero's life. When foe meets foe, glory attends the mastery ; the patriot who dies for his country, pours out his blood before a nation's eyes ; and the martyr soothes his agonies at the stake by visions of immortality ; but this magnanimity, this disinterested conduct in such an emergency, this thoughtlessness of self in the welfare of others, should be honored beyond the praise due to skill or bravery. The passengers who first landed, supposed he must have perished ; several of them, after arriving at their distant homes, persevered in their inquiries till they learned his escape, his name and residence, and addressed to him their heartfelt thanks.

Dr. T. served in the Frigate *Constitution*, under Captains Bainbridge and Hull, till her return from France in the winter of 1812 ; this ship was then paid off and taken into dock. Averse to an indolent life on furlough ashore, he determined to resign his commission and renew his professional practice ; but Secretary Smith assured him that war would soon be proclaimed, and solicited him to take back his commission ; this he readily did and joined the Frigate *United States*, Captain Decatur. In this ship he sailed with the squadron of Commodore Rogers on the long cruise in pursuit of the Jamaica fleet ; and, as our ships, by the improvidence of Government, had not been properly equipped for sea before the declaration of war, the *United States* on her arrival in Boston harbor had 140 of her crew sick with the scurvy, and many of them slung in their hammocks with that distressing disorder. When Captain Decatur took command of the *President*, Dr. T. was transferred to that frigate, and was taken prisoner and carried to Bermuda at the capture of the *President* by the British squadron. At the close of the war for his faithful services he was appointed Surgeon of the Navy Yard at Charlestown, and in addition to the scanty pay of Surgeon he then was entitled to receive such emoluments and perquisites as rendered his situation easy. But here his greatest misfortune awaited him.

It is greatly to be deplored that a man of so pure and amiable a spirit as Dr. T., should by any unfortunate incident incur the displeasure of his superiors. In this instance, however, instead of impeachment of his character, the result has evinced the purest integrity and moral virtue. Being summoned to give evidence against an officer of rank charged with defrauding the public, his evidence gave offence to some in authority, though he was unconscious of any improper bias, but aimed to be impartial and honorable, that he might subserve the cause of justice and the public interest. In consequence of this Dr. T. was deprived of the station to which he was, by usage, justly entitled by his services and merits, and was ordered on a cruise in a vessel of an inferior class. It is alleged by one of the writers of the obituary notices that by the base arts of intrigue and malice the secretary of the navy was deceived respecting his character, and was prevailed on to deprive Dr. T. of his station. He was now ordered to take his station as Surgeon on board the sloop of war

Peacock, Captain Cassin, bound on a cruise to the West Indies in the warm season of summer. The order was promptly obeyed, though Dr. T. was well aware of his personal hazard under existing circumstances. In a letter to a friend written on board the Peacock, then dropping down the Potomac, dated July 18th, 1822, he observes, "Every care will be taken, I dare say, by the captain and officers to preserve the health of the crew ; but at this particular season, to remain any while in or near the Havana with a healthy ship's company, is entirely out of the question. My situation will expose me in an eminent degree to the sickness of this climate. I have never called on any person in authority since my arrival here. At the present time I prefer the chance of a West India cruise to the arduous, and perhaps odious, task of attempting to remove the prejudices which have been so studiously excited against me in the minds of those in power. I am no courtier. If influential men are against me, I have the pleasure to know that all others, officers and citizens, army and navy, are in my favor."

Dr. T. was seized with yellow fever, and fell a sacrifice at Norfolk on board the Peacock, November 4th, 1822. In the latter part of his life there was a soft and, as it were, a religious melancholy diffused through all his actions. He seemed to take delight in contemplating the character of the aged, and in holding communion with those on the confines of another world. His character combined those qualities that command respect, and win entire confidence and the warmest attachment. Unsuspected integrity, the highest sense of honor, delicacy of manners, dignity of deportment, and elegance of person, were united with powerful intellect, and with extensive and various attainments in polite literature and professional science. A few years before his death, he married a lady of New-York, but she died soon after the birth of a son. The child is living, but too young to fully understand his loss ; at a future day he will enjoy the rich inheritance of an unsullied name and unspotted reputation from his father. For some time before Dr. T. sailed on his last cruise, he had employed his leisure hours in collecting materials for the biography of American physicians ; from his diligence, taste, and habits of research, a valuable and interesting work might have been expected, if his life had been prolonged.

**TUDOR, ELIHU, M.D.** was the second son of Rev. Samuel Tudor, minister of the third Society of Windsor in Connecticut. He was descended from Owen Tudor, who came from Wales to this country with the Puritans, and was one of the first planters in the town of Windsor. The family is descended from an ancient family of Wales, one branch of which for a considerable time sat on the English Throne.

Dr. Tudor was born in February, 1733, and was graduated at Yale College in 1750. For about four years before his death he was the first among the living on the catalogue of that seminary, and it is remarkable that two other physicians, with Dr. Tudor, were of the four oldest graduates for some years; Dr. Porter of Salisbury, and Dr. Monson of New-Haven; the Rev. Dr. Whitney was the fourth.

After leaving college Dr. Tudor was employed in the business of instruction in New-Haven, Newport, and other places. Having a predilection for the study of medicine he commenced and pursued it under the direction of Dr. Gale of Willingworth, who stood high as a general scholar, a politician and physician. At an early period of the war of 1755 he joined the army, was attached to the medical department and continued to serve until the close of the war. He was in the expedition that reduced Canada under General Wolf in 1759, and in the Army that besieged and took the supposed impregnable fortress of Havana in 1762. At the peace in 1763 he was in England, and continued his connexion with the army. In this connexion he was employed in the public hospitals, and gladly improved the opportunities there presented to perfect his skill in his profession. About the year 1767 he was discharged from the army at his own request, and retired on half pay, which was regularly continued to him during life. He returned to his native country after ten years absence, settled in East Windsor in Connecticut on his paternal inheritance, and continued there till his death. He soon embraced an extensive course of practice as a physician and surgeon, and was at that time almost the only well educated surgeon in the state. His surgical practice was eminently successful, and he continued to follow it with general approbation even when the infirmities of 80 years seemed to require repose.

Dr. Tudor was married soon after his return from Europe to Miss Brewster, descendant of Elder Brewster of Plymouth, who came over in the first ship in 1620, by whom he had a number of children. In his moral character Dr. Tudor was always without reproach ; his manners were highly polished and gentlemanly, resulting partly from his early intercourse with polished society, but more from the native warmth of a benevolent heart. In families which enjoyed his stated practice he was greatly beloved, and he enjoyed the strong attachment of his professional brethren. Dr. Tudor took an active part in the establishment of the Medical Society of the state, and was always a zealous advocate for the honor and improvement of the profession. In 1790 he received the degree of M. D. from Dartmouth college. He was truly a religious man, and although he became an Episcopalian in England and was ever after much attached to that mode of worship, he was a regular communicant in the congregational church in his society for many years. He was a true friend to his country and cherished with becoming ardor the growing institutions and forms of government of his native land, while at the same time he was a friend and admirer of the British government, under which he had so long lived.

His family were distinguished for longevity, two sisters survive him, one aged 93, the younger 76. In his latter years he was distinguished for an extraordinary benevolence and good will to all mankind ; he was never insensible to the smallest favor received, and was always anxious to do good to others. His decline was very gradual, and he sunk by old age without disease on the 6th of March, 1826, aged 93. He contemplated his dissolution with calmness, often mentioning that he had outlived all his early contemporaries.—*Samuel B. Woodward M. D.*

TUFTS, DR. SIMON, was born in Medford, Massachusetts, in January, 1700, and was graduated at Harvard College in 1724. He early applied himself to the study of physic, and soon became eminent in that profession, being the first regularly bred physician in Medford. His circle of practice embraced ten or twelve neighboring towns, and it is recollected that his character and conduct were held in high estimation by the people, no man being more industrious or faithful in his profession, or more universally beloved. He was often called to visit the sick at Harvard

College, and, though not affluent himself, his regard for that institution induced him to decline receiving fees from the students who found it difficult to support themselves.

It is indicative of the economy, industry and good habits of that age, that, while his eldest son Simon was at college and boarded with Mr. Foxcraft, the county Register of Deeds, he was required to write in the office as a partial compensation. Among his medical pupils was General John Thomas, who at the commencement of the American war commanded at Dorchester Heights, and afterwards died with the smallpox while commander of our army in Canada. Dr. Tufts was appointed to various civil offices both in the town and county, as Justice of the Peace, Special Justice and Justice of the Quorum. He died of a convulsive asthma, January, 1746, having just completed his 47th year.

Such was the respect for his character that the public mourned his loss, and funeral sermons were preached on the occasion, at Medford, Boston, Charlestown and Cambridge. The house in which he lived and which he derived from his father, is yet standing and has never been out of the family, and is perhaps 150 years old.

TUFTS, SIMON, M.M.S.S., son of the preceding, born at Medford, January 16th, 1726, and graduated at Harvard College in 1744, was considered an excellent Latin and Greek scholar. He devoted his attention to the study of medicine under the care of his father; but at his death two years only had been occupied in that pursuit, and he, being but twenty years of age, hesitated what course to pursue; but by the encouragement of friends he resolved to attempt to supply the vacancy which his father's death had occasioned. His mild and excellent character, and the great affection and respect the people had for his father, acquired for him the general confidence; and he happily succeeded to the circle of practice, most of which he retained for forty years.

In the year 1765 a medical society was contemplated, and Dr. Tufts received a letter of invitation to assist in forming the institution; but the reason why the project was not then accomplished is not known. In 1782 a fall from his horse caused a bleeding from his lungs, and laid a foundation for the disease which terminated his valuable life after a long confinement in July, 1786.



Dr. Tufts is remembered as a man of uncommon skill and sound judgment ; his habits of research were unceasing, and his conversation remarkably attractive and engaging. One of the most noticed features of his deportment was perfect Chesterfieldian manners, in which respect few men were equal to him. He was revered by a large community, and his death was considered as a public loss. Such was his well known probity and honor that, on the settlement of his accounts after his death, the executor found the fullest confidence was placed in his correctness, and his own books were all that were required for a satisfactory adjustment. The Rev. Mr. Turrell appointed him executor to his will, and Colonel Isaac Royall, on leaving the country at the revolution as a refugee, appointed him his agent, in which trust he was confirmed by the Legislature. He was elected a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1782. He was commissioned as Justice of the Peace in 1770, and was twice a member of the Legislature. As a practitioner he was considered as having adopted a mode of treatment in putrid sore throat and slow fever, which was uncommonly successful.

In the year 1766 Dr. Tufts received into his family John Brooks, our late excellent Governor, who was then about 14 years old ; young Brooks was placed under his tuition by written indentures, as an apprentice for seven years. No master was ever more faithful to his trust ; and the pupil by his own excellent conduct through a long life abundantly repaid his master's care. It is a little remarkable that the father and son, who were noted for their mild domestic virtues, should educate two men who became generals in our revolutionary war. Both father and son were excellent examples of life and manners.

On the family tombstone in Medford is this inscription :

“ Both eminent in their profession,

Just also towards men, and devout towards God ! ”

TUFTS, COTTON, M.D. M.M.S.S. A.A.S., younger brother of the preceding, was born at Medford, in May, 1731. Early in life he evinced a propensity to literature, and distinguished himself by regular habits, diligent application, and respectable attainments in knowledge. In the 14th year of his age he was admitted a student of Harvard College, and was graduated in 1749. During his residence in that seminary he sustained a fair, an estimable and respected character both moral and literary.

Having imbibed a taste for the same profession as his father and brother, he went through a regular course of medical education, and fixed his residence in Weymouth, in which town and neighborhood his reputation and usefulness were advantageously established and will be long remembered.

He married Lucy Quincy, daughter of Colonel John Quincy of Braintree, and sister of Madam Smith who was mother of the consort of John Adams late President of the United States ; and this connexion was a source of mutual friendly intercourse during life. President Adams ever entertained an exalted opinion of the merit and character of Dr. Tufts.

On his first arrival at Weymouth the putrid sore throat was very prevalent and extremely mortal. Dr. Tufts introduced a mode of treatment altogether different from that of the established physicians of that vicinity, which was attended with peculiar success, and this confirmed his popularity and widely extended his fame. To his practice he united courtesy, condescension, sympathy and kindness. While his exactions for his professional services from those who had the ability to make prompt and easy payment, were always moderate, he had a heart to favor and gratuitously to relieve the necessitous. His professional labors in the early part and in the meridian of his life, were extended to places considerably remote ; nor in advanced age did he withhold his advice and aid, in difficult cases, from those who were beyond the sphere of his usual practice.

Eminent and highly estimable not only as a physician, but a man, he could not fail to rise high in the public estimation, particularly in the view of those who were the best judges of the worth and excellence of character. Accordingly we find his name enrolled among the original members of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was soon elected Vice President, and from the year 1787 to 1795 he sustained the office of President of that learned body ; at which period increasing age, and the pressure of his other various duties, induced him to resign. The able manner in which he acquitted himself of the duties of the office, met the approbation and procured the thanks of the society. As a man of general erudition, he attained to no inconsiderable eminence. His researches were various and extensive, judicious and accurate. We find the

name of Dr. Tufts at the head of the list of those illustrious men who in the year 1780, in the midst of war and tumult, were incorporated as the American Academy of Arts and Sciences ; here he sustained a character both honorable and influential. In the higher branch of the state legislature he was for many years distinguishingly active, patriotic, firm and of great influence. And, when appointed a member of the convention for adopting the Constitution of the United States, he expressed his attachment and devotedness to the best interests of his country, by giving his suffrage for that invaluable instrument.

In the year 1765 Dr. T. wrote the spirited and patriotic instructions to the representatives of the town of Weymouth against the memorable stamp act. In the time of the war of our revolution he was chosen a member of the convention who undertook to regulate the prices of merchandize and country produce, and he was the only man who voted against that measure, which eventually proved to be altogether futile and ridiculous. His conduct through life was marked with the most rigid adherence to the principles of integrity, and the most ardent attachment to the liberties of his country. He was for several years President of the Trustees of the Derby Academy, and his unremitting and able services highly contributed to promote the objects of that literary institution. As the presiding member of the board, he acquitted himself to the highest satisfaction of the associate members, who on his resignation of his office, a short time before his death, gratefully tendered him their sincere and unqualified acknowledgment of his able and faithful services. As a member and as the president of the Society for the Reformation of Morals, his exertions to check and suppress the shameful and destructive practice of intemperance, and its kindred vices, were judicious, spirited and, it is hoped, in some degree effective. To reclaim the unhappy and wretched wanderers, was the ardent desire of his heart ; a desire which efficiently prompted him to laudable and meritorious actions. Dr. Tufts closed his valuable life December 8th, 1815, in the 84th year of his age

We must not omit to notice the remaining prominent traits of his character, and particularly his christian virtues. He was always a rational and firm believer in the christian religion ; he early in life, from a sense of duty, made a public profession of it ; and uniformly exemplified

its divine precepts and institutions. Few men have passed through life with a more steady and conscientious adherence to the various duties of the christian life. During the space of more than forty years, he filled the office of deacon in the church, and discharged its duties with constancy, fidelity and good acceptance. Few men, says his biographer, sustained this office with more reputation and dignity, or discharged its duties with greater punctuality and unaffected, but not severe and repulsive, gravity. In regard to politics he was a federalist of that stamp, from whose sentiments considerate and judicious men of each party could not widely differ; his patriotic zeal, tempered with moderation, was well worthy of imitation. In social life he highly distinguished himself by urbanity of manners, and a courteous address. In conversation he was pleasant, interesting and instructive. In every domestic circle he was as well the pleasant and desirable companion and the beloved and instructive friend, as the fond husband, the kind father, the venerable patriarch. Although in doing good and communicating, he gave no encouragement or countenance to the idle, to vagrants, to tipplers and the worthless, he was far from neglecting the proper objects of charity. For these he felt a generous sympathy, and imparted to them its genuine effects, as they needed.—*Funeral Sermon by Rev. Mr. Norton.*

TURNER, DR. PHILIP, a very celebrated operative surgeon, was born at Norwich, Connecticut, in 1740. At the age of twelve, being left an orphan destitute of property, he was taken into the family and under the patronage of Dr. Elisha Tracy of that town, who deservedly stood high in the public opinion as a classical scholar, a practical physician, and a man distinguished for his moral and social virtues. Here young Turner was treated with parental kindness, and at a suitable age commenced his medical studies under the eye of his patron. In the year 1759 he was appointed assistant surgeon to a provincial regiment, under General Amherst, at Ticonderoga. His handsome person and pleasing address soon attracted the attention of the English surgeons, by whom he was treated with much courtesy, and invited to witness many of their capital operations. It was from the information and practice he obtained in this school, that he laid the foundation of his future eminence as an operator. He continued with the army till after the peace of 1763, when he returned to

the house of his benefactor, whose eldest daughter he soon after married, and settled in Norwich as a practitioner of surgery.

His practice and reputation were such that, at the breaking out of the revolutionary war, he was unrivalled as a surgeon in the eastern section of the country. During the first campaign he was the first surgeon of the Connecticut troops before Boston. He went with the army to New-York in 1776, and, in consequence of the battles of Long-Island and White Plains, a favorable opportunity was afforded him of displaying his professional talents as an operator, which gained him the highest character with the army. In 1777 Dr. Turner was nominated and appointed by Congress Director General, to superintend the General Hospital ; but, on a motion for reconsideration, the appointment was given to Dr. Shippen of Philadelphia, and Dr. Turner was appointed Surgeon General of the eastern department, which station he filled with great ability till near the close of the war. He then returned to his family, and resumed his private practice. In this he continued with undiminished reputation till 1800, when finding himself advancing in years, and feeling the fatigues of extensive country practice, he removed to New-York, considering a city better adapted to his period of life. His business here was soon respectable, and he was shortly after appointed a surgeon to the staff of the United States army, and was permanently stationed on York Island with the medical and surgical care of the troops in that quarter. This station he held at his death, which occurred in the spring of 1815, in the 75th year of his age. He was interred with military honors.

Dr. Turner, though not an academical scholar, received a good early education, and was naturally of a ready mind, with much sprightliness and suavity of manners. To these were united a handsome person and pleasing address, with a kind of intuitive capacity, peculiarly qualifying him for the profession of surgery. On this subject his judgment was uncommonly accurate, and with a firm mind, and a steady dexterity of hand, his operations were ably performed, and attended with an almost unparalleled success. Dr. Shippen did him the honor to say that neither in Europe nor in America had he ever seen an operator that excelled him. In about twenty operations of lithotomy, it is said that all but two cases were perfectly suc-

cessful. Dr. Turner is an instance of one rising to the highest professional eminence, who never studied or travelled out of his own country.—*Medical Intelligencer*.

VAUGHAN, JOHN, M.D. was born in Uchland Township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, on the 25th day of June, 1775. His father, John Vaughan, was a highly respectable minister in the Baptist society. Dr. V. was educated at Old Chester ; at which place he obtained an acquaintance with the classics, which, however, was rendered more perfect by his diligent and close attention to them in after life. He studied medicine with Dr. William Currie of Philadelphia, and attended the medical lectures in the University of Pennsylvania in 1793 and '94.

In March, 1795, he located himself in Christiana Bridge, a small village in the state of Delaware, where he continued until April, 1799, when he removed to Wilmington. In March, 1797, he married Eliza, daughter of Joel Lewis, Esq., Marshal of the District of Delaware. Dr. V.'s scientific attainments and success speedily introduced him into extensive practice in Wilmington, and acquired him a reputation which few men of his early age have ever had the good fortune to enjoy. Among his intimate friends and familiar correspondents, as early as 1801, we find the illustrious Jefferson, Aaron Burr, John Dickerson, James A. Bayard, C. A. Rodney, &c. ; and, in his own profession, characters of equal eminence and celebrity, as Drs. Rush, Miller, Mitchell, Logan, the late Dr. Tilton, Caldwell, Davidge, &c.

Dr. Vaughan was a Corresponding Member of the Philadelphia Academy of Medicine, Honorary Member of the Medical Society of Philadelphia, Member of the American Medical Society, Fellow of the Medical and Member of the Philosophical Societies of Delaware. Before the latter society he delivered by appointment, in the town hall of Wilmington in the winter of 1799 and 1800, a full and complete course of lectures on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. This was the first and only course which he ever was able to deliver ; his professional duties and engagements shortly afterwards requiring his constant and unremitted attention, and thereby rendering it utterly impracticable for him to devote the requisite time to those subjects.

From early life he was of a pious disposition, and appeared always fully aware of the necessity of, and the con-

solations to be derived from religion, in passing through this transitory stage of existence. These feelings grew with his growth and strengthened with his strength, and in 1806, from a deep sense and full conviction of its being his duty, he commenced preaching the gospel in the Baptist church in this Borough ; which he continued occasionally, when his professional engagements would permit, until the time of his death. Believing that what is "freely received, should be freely given," he never did, and never intended to receive any compensation for dispensing to his auditors the doctrines of the "meek and lowly Jesus."

The talents of Dr. Vaughan were of such a nature as to qualify him in an eminent degree for the successful practice of medicine. The faculties of perception and judgment, so essentially requisite in the diagnosis and cure of morbid actions, he evidently possessed in a remarkable degree ; so much so, indeed, as to be generally able to ascertain the nature and seat of the disease, and indicate the remedy, with as much promptness and facility as if he had seized upon the knowledge, as it were by intuition. His mind was active, his memory tenacious, and, being a most diligent student, at the age of thirty-one he had acquired such a mass of medical knowledge and experience as is rarely gained by a person of his years. His manners, talents and success entitled him to the character of a great physician. As a physician and chemist, he was justly eminent ; for, though snatched off in the summer of life, he had travelled far in the walks of science.

In his manners and appearance he was usually sedate and thoughtful. But in his intercourse with the afflicted he was always affable and peculiarly kind and feeling. No man possessed more of the "milk of human kindness" than he ; for he was always ready and willing to administer not only medical aid, but, what is often of equal, if not superior importance, mental and spiritual comfort and consolation. By this peculiar talent for "administering to a mind diseased," and healing the wounds of a broken and desponding spirit, he was endeared to his patients by such strong and lasting ties as to be most deeply and sincerely regretted, and never to be forgotten by them as long as memory retains her throne : as has been truly said of him, the tears of the poor and friendless bedew his memory ; for his bosom was the seat of humanity and

feeling : kindness beamed in his countenance ; and active benevolence warmed his heart.

He was truly and emphatically a hard student and an industrious man ; and has left such a large number of note books, unfinished essays, &c., that we may fairly infer that, if he had lived a few years longer, he would have contributed largely to the fund of medical literature and information.

During the winter of 1806,'7 his health and strength appeared to be becoming gradually impaired ; his constitution, naturally a delicate one, was evidently yielding to the fatigue and exposure necessarily incident to a very extensive and laborious practice. In obstetrics particularly, confessedly a very laborious branch of the profession, he was almost constantly more or less employed, being so successful and popular as to be compelled to attend to a great deal more of it than even a robust constitution could readily have endured. In March, 1807, having taken cold, he was attacked with a violent and distressing cough, slight soreness of the throat, with some indications of congestion in the pulmonary organs, and a high fever, which, after continuing for a very few days, put on the typhoid form, and in the course of one short week deprived science of a bright ornament, and society of a highly esteemed and extensively useful member. "From all I can learn of his case," says his biographer, "I am strongly inclined to the opinion that his disease was the Pneumonia typhoides, which had about that time given a few premonitory signs of the wide spread desolation it was afterwards to commit."

Dr. V. died March 25th, 1807. His publications were an Edition of Dr. Smith's Letters ; a Chemical Syllabus ; and numerous communications, on a variety of subjects, to the Philadelphia Medical Museum, and the New-York Medical Repository. Dr. Vaughan published Observations on Animal Electricity in Explanation of the Metallic Operation of Dr. Perkins. This was a pamphlet of 32 pages, dedicated to James Tilton, M. D., President of the Medical Society of Delaware, 1797 ; the object of which was to explain the operation of the metallic Tractors, for which he was a zealous advocate.

WALDO, DR. ALBIGEREU, was born about the year 1750 in the town of Pomfret, State of Connecticut. His education was such as was common in the district schools



of the state at that time, with the addition of some knowledge of the Latin language, which he obtained from the instruction of Rev. Aaron Putnam, a respectable minister of the gospel in the same town. At an early age he was apprenticed to a Surgeon, Dr. John Spalding of Canterbury, under whose tuition he exhibited proofs of genius, and made good use of the scanty means of instruction to which he had access.

He was rapidly rising in professional reputation when, at the beginning of the revolutionary war, he was called out as a Surgeon to a Regiment of militia, and served in the campaign of 1776 in New-Jersey; he was afterwards appointed to the same station in the Continental Army, in which he continued two years or more. In the battle of Monmouth, and in winter quarters at Valley Forge, where the American army underwent a general inoculation for smallpox, the services of Dr. W. gained him great reputation and contributed much to his professional knowledge. After leaving the army he practised as a surgeon in Windham county with great reputation. At one period of his life he went to Maryland with the view of establishing himself in the practice of surgery, but did not continue there more than one year. Surgery was his favorite branch, though his knowledge was not confined to this, but embraced all branches of the healing art.

Dr. Waldo discovered an ardent thirst for knowledge, and read with much interest all the medical publications to which he could have access; he was fond of music, painting and drawing, and has left in manuscript some handsome specimens of his poetical talent. He composed and delivered several orations on public occasions, and pronounced an elegant eulogy at the grave of the late Major General Putnam.

The influence of Dr. Waldo was very great in forming a medical society in the county where he resided, which was the first that was formed in the state, and from this beginning, and one other society in New-Haven, arose the present Medical Society of the state of Connecticut.

The benevolence and humanity of Dr. Waldo were unbounded. He felt for others more than for himself. He cared little for money, and has been known to give his last dollar in charity. It will not be surprising that a man of this character, who practised the medical profession in the impoverished state of the country, should leave

nothing for his family. He died in the year 1794, greatly lamented. A monument was erected to his memory in the church yard of his native place, by Moriah Lodge of which he had been an officer.

WARD, DR. JOSIAH MEIGS, was a native of the town of Guilford in the state of Connecticut. His father moved into the state of New-York while he was yet young, and there he received his primary education. He pursued the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Percival of Berlin in that state, a gentleman of science and extensive practice, and father of Dr. Percival the poet.

Dr. Ward commenced the practice of medicine in the state of New-York ; but upon the death of Dr. Percival, which happened soon after, he removed to Berlin and took the practice of his former instructor. In the early part of his medical career he was distinguished as a young man of sound judgment, diligent application to business, and considerable reading. To his cases he devoted an uncommon share of attention, and investigated their nature and discriminating symptoms with an ability that would have done honor to great experience and riper years. Upon the death of Dr. Hand of Worthington, whose friend and companion he was, he exchanged his residence to that flourishing and pleasant village. With a constitution naturally firm and vigorous, an ambition highly laudable to excel in his profession, and a deep and settled conviction of the responsibility of his station, he was indefatigable in his exertions, regardless of fatigue, irregularity and bodily effort ; he made exertions and endured privations which would have broken down the constitution of most men. Such a course with the ability which he possessed, united to an unblemished life and great modesty and propriety of deportment, could not fail to extend his popularity and usefulness. The testimony which all who knew him bore to his merit, gave a spring to the natural elasticity of his mind and body.

Few men in the country were more enviably situated than Dr. Ward, when the fatal Epidemic of 1823 first appeared in Berlin. This was the disease improperly called spotted fever, more justly denominated by Dr. Miner Typhus Syncopalis. Contrary to the common law of epidemics, it was mild at the first, and, although it greatly increased the business of Dr. Ward, he was able by unex-

amplified diligence to attend to all his calls ; and such were the modesty and prudence of his conduct that no unusual excitement was apparent in the town till the disease had existed a number of weeks. At length, however, the character of the disease became more deadly, and the sudden illness and death of two or three respectable citizens excited the greatest alarm and wide spread consternation ; and the disease made a rapid and extensive progress. Dr. Ward's activity was redoubled, day and night he was on the alert. He attended to all his calls, and that faithfully. For three months his labors were incessant and almost unexampled. During this period he allowed himself but four or five hours for sleep, and scarcely a night passed without this short repose being interrupted. All this fatigue, and anxiety, and responsibility were borne with a manly spirit and commendable patience. But the severest trial was in reserve for him. The severity of the disease and its rapid march to death, in several instances, rendered the use of energetic practice indispensable. The sudden fatality with which the malady was sometimes attended, and which no practice in the power of art could prevent, afforded an opportunity for the envious to assail his character, and they basely attempted to destroy the confidence and fair reputation he possessed. In the midst of all this trial he pursued the even tenor of his way, calm, selfpossessed, with full confidence in the correctness of his course ; he persevered with an undeviating hand, he discriminated with his usual sagacity, and prescribed with his usual judgment. It was on this trying occasion that the strong powers of his mind were displayed ; he was as unshaken as the rocks that surrounded him. The shafts of his enemies fell harmlessly before him, and he neither retorted nor censured. In the autumn the epidemic abated ; the success of his practice proved the correctness of his judgment and principles ; upwards of five hundred cases of the epidemic had been treated by Dr. Ward and his friends, of which forty-four proved fatal.

As his business began to decline, he found his health had received its first shock. The uncommon efforts of his mind and body, and the irregularity of his life, affected his nervous system, impaired the tone of his stomach, and he was an invalid ever after. At the approach of the succeeding season the formidable disease reappeared ; fatigue and anxiety aggravated his complaints, and made a

second inroad upon his constitution ; and in the winter following his health was much impaired, though he continued his professional duties with unabated ardor. In the summer of 1825 his wife was severely seized with the epidemic. To her Dr. W. devoted himself ; his attentions were unremitted, his anxiety was great, he watched for a long time and trembled for her safety ; at length, however, she recovered. But his children sickened, and two of them died. The disease still prevailed in the town, and he was pressed with urgent calls. He visited a patient in the night, unfit as he was, worn down by fatigue, anxiety and suffering. Feeling indisposed the next day, he walked abroad in the open air, took a seat on the steps of the church, and fell asleep ; he awoke with a chill upon him, and went home sick, took some light medicine, and continued to ride and visit his patients. His medical friends advised him to cease from his labors, and to confine himself, but his resolution overcame his judgment, and he persisted in his efforts till nature was exhausted ; a delirium ensued, and he sunk suddenly into the arms of death in the prime of his life, in the midst of his usefulness, at the age of 43 years. Thus was a valuable life sacrificed to the labors and toils of professional duties.

In stature Dr. Ward was of the middle size, and well proportioned ; the features of his face were expressive, his nose aquiline, his eyes hazel, intelligent and penetrating. His ample forehead would have afforded a fine sample for the Phrenologist.

He was a member of the Connecticut Medical Society, and frequently a fellow of the same in the general convention of the state. In his domestic relations he was a kind and affectionate husband, an excellent parent, and firm and ardent friend, and his heart was full of benevolence. In his professional avocations his excellent qualities were peculiarly conspicuous. When disease and death were constantly before him the temper of his mind was never ruffled, although his feelings were alive to the welfare of others. His faculty of discrimination was of a superior cast, and he always took a comprehensive view of his patient's case, and reflected well before he decided. In consultation he was modest and unassuming, regarding the opinions of others with deference and respect. Should it be inquired upon what grounds Dr. W. should be subjected to the annoyance of enemies, the spirit of envy will





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probably explain the cause. When the formidable epidemic above mentioned was making its ravages in the sphere of his practice, of which he engrossed a large share, some of his opposers ridiculed the idea of its existence, and declared it to be altogether factitious. In this dilemma Dr. W. requested a medical council of three of his professional brethren, to examine into the nature of the disease by inspecting the cases then under his care. This council, consisting of respectable men, was assembled at the expense of some public spirited citizens, and the result was a full confirmation of the opinion of Dr. W., and approbation of his mode of treatment in the disease. By this expedient the excitement of the inhabitants was appeased and their confidence in his character established.

WARREN, JOSEPH, was born in Roxbury, near Boston, in the year 1741. His father was a respectable farmer in that place, who had held several municipal offices to the acceptance of his fellow citizens. Joseph, with several of his brothers, was instructed in the elementary branches of knowledge at the public grammar school of the town, which was distinguished for its successive instructors of superior attainments. In 1755 he entered college, where he sustained the character of a youth of talents, fine manners, and of a generous, independent deportment, united to great personal courage and perseverance. An anecdote will illustrate his fearlessness and determination at that age, when character can hardly be said to be formed. Several students of Warren's class shut themselves in a room to arrange some college affairs in a way which they knew was contrary to his wishes, and barred the door so effectually that he could not, without great violence, force it; but he did not give over the attempt of getting amongst them, for, perceiving that the window of the room in which they were assembled was open and near a spout which extended from the roof of the building to the ground, he went to the top of the house, slid down to the eaves, seized the spout, and, when he had descended as far as the window, threw himself into the chamber amongst them. At that instant the spout, which was decayed and weak, gave way and fell to the ground. He looked at it without emotion, said that it had served his purpose, and began to take his part in the business. A spectator of this feat and narrow escape related this fact to me in the college yard, nearly half a century afterwards, and the im-

pression it made on his mind was so strong, that he seemed to feel the same emotion as though it happened but an hour before.

On leaving college in 1759, Warren turned his attention to the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Lloyd, an eminent physician of that day, whose valuable life has been protracted almost to the present time. Warren was distinguished very soon after he commenced practice ; for, when in 1764 the smallpox spread in Boston, he was amongst the most successful in his method of treating that disease, which was then considered the most dreadful scourge of the human race, and the violence of which had baffled the efforts of the learned Faculty of Medicine from the time of its first appearance. From this moment he stood high amongst his brethren, and was the favorite of the people, and what he gained in their good will, he never lost. His personal appearance, his address, his courtesy and his humanity, won the way to the hearts of all, and his knowledge and superiority of talents secured the conquest. A bright and lasting fame in his profession, with the attendant consequences, wealth and influence, were within his reach, and near at hand ; but the calls of a distracted country were paramount to every consideration of his own interests, and he entered the vortex of politics, never to return to the peaceful course of professional labor.

The change in public opinion had been gradually preparing the minds of most men for a revolution. This was not openly avowed ; amelioration of treatment for the present, and assurance of kindness in future, were all that the colonies asked from Great Britain—but these they did not receive. The mother country mistook the spirit of her children, and used threats when kindness would have been the best policy. When Britain declared her right to direct, govern and tax us in any form and at all times, the colonies reasoned, remonstrated and entreated for a while ; and, when these means did not answer, they defied and resisted. The political writers of the province had been active and busy, and they were generally screened by fictitious names, or sent their productions anonymously into the world ; but the time had arrived when speakers of nerve and boldness were wanted to raise their voices against oppression in every shape. Warren possessed first rate qualities for an orator, and had early declared, in the



strongest terms, his political sentiments, which were somewhat in advance of public opinion, for he held as tyranny all taxation which could be imposed by the British parliament upon the colonies. In times of danger the people are sagacious, and cling to those who best can serve them, and every eye was on him in every emergency, for he had not only the firmness and decision they wished for in a leader, but was prudent and wary in all his plans. His first object was to enlighten the people, and then he felt sure of engaging their feelings in the general cause. He knew when once they began, it would be impossible to tread back—independence only would satisfy the country. With an intention of directing public sentiment, without appearing to be too active, he met frequently with a considerable number of substantial mechanics, and others in the middling classes of society, who were busy in politics. This crisis required such a man as they found him to be, one who could discern the signs of the times, and mould the ductile materials to his will, and at the same time seem only to follow in the path of others. His letter to Barnard, which attracted the notice of government, had been written several years before, in 1768; but in some form or other he was constantly enlightening the people by his pen; but it is now difficult, and of no great importance, to trace him in the papers of that period. The public was not then always right in designating the authors of political essays. In the different situations in which he was called to act, he assumed as many characters as fable has ever given to the tutelar god of his profession, and, like him, in every one of them he retained the wisdom to guide, and the power to charm. At one time he might be found restraining the impetuosity, and bridling the fury of those hotheaded politicians, who felt more than they reasoned, and dared to do more than became men. Such was his versatility, that he turned from these lectures of caution and prudence, to asserting and defending the most bold and undisguised principles of liberty, and defying in their very teeth the agents of the crown.

Twice he was elected to deliver the oration on the fifth of March, in commemoration of the "massacre," and his orations are amongst the most distinguished produced by that splendid list of speakers who addressed their fellow citizens on this subject, so interesting to them all. In these productions generally the immediate causes of this

event were overlooked, and the remote ones alone were discussed. Here they were on safe ground, for tyranny in its incipient stages has no excuse from opposition ; but in its march it generally finds some plausible arguments for its proceedings, drawn from the very resistance it naturally produces. These occasions gave the orators a fine field for remark, and a fair opportunity for effect. The great orators of antiquity in their speeches attempted only to rouse the people to retain what they possessed. Invective, entreaty, and pride had their effect in assisting these mighty masters to influence the people. They were ashamed to lose what their fathers left them, won by their blood and so long preserved by their wisdom, their virtues and their courage. Our statesmen had a harder task to perform, for they were compelled to call on the people to gain what they had never enjoyed—an independent rank and standing amongst the nations of the world.

His next oration was delivered March 6th, 1775. It was at his own solicitation that he was appointed to this duty a second time. The fact is illustrative of his character, and worthy of remembrance. Some British officers of the army then in Boston had publicly declared that it should be at the price of the life of any man to speak of the event of the fifth of March, 1770, on that anniversary. Warren's soul took fire at such a threat so openly made, and he wished for the honor of braving it. This was readily granted, for at such a time a man would probably find but few rivals. Many who would spurn the thought of personal fear, might be apprehensive that they would be so far disconcerted as to forget their discourse. It is easier to fight bravely, than to think clearly or correctly in danger. Passion sometimes nerves the arm to fight, but disturbs the regular current of thought. The day came, and the weather was remarkably fine. The Old South Meeting House was crowded at an early hour. The British officers occupied the aisles, the flight of steps to the pulpit, and several of them were within it. It was not precisely known whether this was accident or design. The orator, with the assistance of his friends, made his entrance at the pulpit window by a ladder. The officers seeing his coolness and intrepidity, made way for him to advance and address the audience. An awful stillness preceded his exordium. Each man felt the palpitations of his own heart, and saw the pale but determined face of

his neighbor. The speaker began his oration in a firm tone of voice, and proceeded with great energy and pathos. Warren and his friends were prepared to chastise contumely, prevent disgrace, and avenge an attempt at assassination.

The scene was sublime ; a patriot in whom the flush of youth, and the grace and dignity of manhood were combined, stood armed in the sanctuary of God, to animate and encourage the sons of liberty, and to hurl defiance at their oppressors. The orator commenced with the early history of the country, described the tenure by which we held our liberties and property, the affection we had constantly shown the parent country, and holdly told them how, and by whom these blessings of life had been violated. There was in this appeal to Britain, in this description of suffering, agony and horror, a calm and high-souled defiance, which must have chilled the blood of every sensible foe. Such another hour has seldom happened in the history of man, and is not surpassed in the records of nations. The thunders of Demosthenes rolled at a distance from Philip and his host, and Tully poured the fiercest torrent of his invective when Catiline was at a distance and his dagger no longer to be feared ; but Warren's speech was made to proud oppressors resting on their arms, whose errand it was to overawe, and whose business it was to fight.

If the deed of Brutus deserved to be commemorated by history, poetry, painting and sculpture, should not this instance of patriotism and bravery be held in lasting remembrance ? If he "That struck the foremost man of all this world," was hailed as the first of freemen, what honors are not due to him, who undismayed hearded the British lion, to show the world what his countrymen dared to do in the cause of liberty ? If the statue of Brutus was placed amongst those of the gods, who were the preservers of Roman freedom, should not that of Warren fill a lofty niche in the temple reared to perpetuate the remembrance of our birth as a nation ?

If independence was not at first openly avowed by our leading men at that time, the hope of attaining it was fondly cherished, and the exertions of the patriots pointed to this end. The wise knew that the storm, which the political Prosperos were raising, would pass away in blood. With these impressions on his mind, Warren for

several years was preparing himself by study and observation to take a conspicuous rank in the military arrangements which he knew must ensue.

On the 18th of April, 1775, by his agents in Boston, he discovered the design of the British commander to seize or destroy our few stores at Concord. He instantly despatched several confidential messengers to Lexington. The late venerable patriot, Paul Revere, was one of them. This gentleman has given a very interesting account of the difficulties he encountered in the discharge of this duty. The alarm was given, and the militia, burning with resentment, were at day break, on the 19th, on the road to repel insult and aggression. The drama was opened about sunrise, within a few yards of the house of God, in Lexington. Warren hastened to the field of action, in the full ardor of his soul, and shared the dangers of the day. While pressing on the enemy, a musket ball took off a lock of his hair close to his ear. The lock was rolled and pinned after the fashion of that day, and considerable force must have been necessary to have cut it away. The people were delighted with his cool, collected bravery, and already considered him as a leader, whose gallantry they were to admire, and in whose talents they were to confide.

On the 14th of June, 1775, the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts made him a Major General of their forces; but, previous to the date of his commission, he had been unceasing in his exertions to maintain order and enforce discipline amongst the troops, which had hastily assembled at Cambridge after the battle of Lexington. He mingled in the ranks, and by every method and argument strove to inspire them with confidence, and succeeded in a most wonderful manner in imparting to them a portion of the flame which glowed in his own breast. At such a crisis genius receives its birth right, the homage of inferior minds, who for self-preservation are willing to be directed. Previous to receiving the appointment of major general, he had been requested to take the office of physician general to the army, but he chose to be where wounds were to be made, rather than where they were to be healed. Yet he lent his aid and advice to the medical department of the army, and was of great service to them in their organization and arrangements.

He was at this time President of the Provincial Congress, having been elected the preceding year a member

from the town of Boston. In this body he discovered his extraordinary powers of mind, and his peculiar fitness for responsible offices at such a juncture. Cautious in proposing measures, he was assiduous in pursuing what he thought, after mature deliberation, to be right, and never counted the probable cost of a measure, when he had decided that it was necessary to be taken. When this congress, which was sitting at Watertown, adjourned for the day, he mounted his horse and hastened to the camp. Every day "he bought golden opinions of all sorts of men;" and when the troops were called to act on Breed's Hill, he had so often been amongst them, that his person was known to most of the soldiers.

Several respectable historians have fallen in to some errors in describing the battle in which he fell, by giving the command of the troops on that day to Warren, when he was only a volunteer in the fight. He did not arrive on the battle ground until the enemy had commenced their movements for the attack. As soon as he made his appearance on the field, the veteran commander of the day, Colonel Prescott, desired to act under his directions; but Warren declined taking any other part than that of a volunteer, and added that he came to learn the art of war from an experienced soldier, whose orders he should be happy to obey. In the battle he was armed with a musket, and stood in the ranks, now and then changing his place to encourage his fellow soldiers by words and example. He undoubtedly, from the state of hostilities, expected soon to act in his high military capacity, and it was indispensable, according to his views, that he should share the dangers of the field as a common soldier with his fellow citizens, that his reputation for bravery might be put beyond the possibility of suspicion. The wisdom of such a course would never have been doubted, if he had returned in safety from the fight. In such a struggle for independence, the ordinary rules of prudence and caution could not govern those who were building up their names for future usefulness by present exertion. Some maxims drawn from the republican writers of antiquity, were worn as their mottos. Some precepts descriptive of the charms of liberty, were ever on their tongues, and some classical model of Greek or Roman patriotism was constantly in their minds. Instances of great men mixing in the ranks of common soldiers, were

to be found in ancient times, when men fought for their altars and their homes. The cases were parallel, and the examples were imposing. When the battle was decided, and our people fled, Warren was one of the last who left the breast-work, and was slain within a few yards of it as he was slowly retiring. He probably felt mortified at the event of the day ; but, had he known how dearly the victory was purchased, and how little honor was gained by those who won it, his heart might have been at rest. Like the band of Leonidas, the vanquished have received by the judgment of nations, from which there is no appeal, the imperishable laurels of victors. His death brought a sickness to the heart of the community, and the people mourned his fall, not with the convulsive agony of a betrothed virgin over the bleeding corse of her lover, but with the pride of the Spartan mother, who in the intensity of her grief smiled to see that the wounds whence life had flown, were on the breast of her son, and was satisfied that he had died in defence of his country. The worth of the victim, and the horror of the sacrifice, gave a higher value to our liberties, and produced a more fixed determination to preserve them.

This eminence has become sacred ground. It contains in its bosom the ashes of the brave who died fighting to defend their altars and their homes. Strangers from all countries visit this spot, for it is associated in their memories with Marathon and Plataeæ, and all the mighty struggles of determined freemen. Our citizens love to wander over this field—the aged to awake recollections, and the youthful to excite heroic emotions. The battle ground is now all plainly to be seen—the spirit of modern improvement, which would stop the streams of Helicon to turn a mill, and cause to be felled the trees of Paradise to make a rafter, has yet spared this hallowed height.

If “the days of chivalry be gone forever,” and the high and enthusiastic feelings of generosity and magnanimity be not so widely diffused as in more heroic ages, yet it cannot be denied but that there have been, and still are, individuals whose bosoms are warmed with a spirit as glowing and ethereal, as ever swelled the heart of “mailed knight,” who in the ecstasies of love, religion and martial glory, joined the war-cry on the plains of Palestine, or proved his steel on the infidel foe. The history of every revolution is interspersed with brilliant episodes of individual

prowess. The pages of our own history, when fully written out, will sparkle profusely with these gems of romantic valor.

The calmness and indifference of the veteran "in clouds of dust and seas of blood," can only be acquired by long acquaintance with the trade of death; but the heights of Charlestown will bear eternal testimony how suddenly in the cause of freedom the peaceful citizen can become the invincible warrior; stung by oppression, he springs forward from his tranquil pursuits, undaunted by opposition and undismayed by danger, to fight even to death for the defence of his rights. Parents, wives, children, and country, all the hallowed properties of existence, are to him the talisman that takes fear from his heart, and nerves his arm to victory. In the requiem over those who have fallen in the cause of their country, which "Time with his own eternal lips shall sing," the praises of Warren shall be distinctly heard.

The blood of those patriots who have fallen in the defence of republics has often "cried from the ground" against the ingratitude of the country for which it was shed. No monument was reared to their fame; no record of their virtues written; no fostering hand extended to their offspring; but they and their deeds were neglected and forgotten. Towards Warren there was no ingratitude—our country is free from this stain. Congress were the guardians of his honor, and remembered that his children were unprotected orphans. Within a year after his death, congress passed the following resolution.

"That a monument be erected to the memory of General Warren, in the town of Boston, with the following inscription:—

IN HONOR OF

JOSEPH WARREN,

MAJOR GENERAL OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

HE DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO THE LIBERTIES OF HIS COUNTRY,

AND IN BRAVELY DEFENDING THEM, FELL AN EARLY VICTIM IN THE

**Battle of Bunker Hill,**

JUNE 17, 1775.

The Congress of the United States, as an acknowledgment of his services and distinguished merit, have erected this monument to his memory."

It was resolved, likewise, "that the eldest son of General Warren should be educated from that time at the expense of the United States." On the first of July, 1790. congress recognising these former resolutions, further resolved, "that it should be recommended to the Executive of Massachusetts Bay, to make provision for the maintenance and education of his three younger children, and that congress would defray the expense to the amount of the half pay of a major general, to commence at the time of his death, and continue till the youngest of the children should be of age." The part of the resolutions relating to the education of the children, was carried into effect accordingly. The monument is not yet erected, but it is not too late. The shade of Warren will not repine at this neglect, while the ashes of Washington repose without grave stone or epitaph.

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WATERS, NICHOLAS BAKER, M.D. He was born in Maryland in the year 1764. His father was a respectable planter, and possessed a fine farm which furnished him with every comfort and luxury which he desired. This he unfortunately sold during the American war, for paper money which depreciated almost to nothing before he could invest it in other property. He afterwards removed to Philadelphia, where he died.

The place of Dr. Waters's early education cannot now be ascertained ; but it did credit to his preceptor, whoever he may have been. He was an excellent classical and English scholar. He studied medicine first under his uncle Dr. William Baker, a distinguished practitioner in Maryland, and finished it in Philadelphia, where he enjoyed the benefit of the instruction derived from a residence of several years in the Pennsylvania hospital and attending the medical lectures in the College of Philadelphia. In the year 1788 he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. The subject of his inaugural dissertation was the *Scarlatina Cynanchica* ; and according to the rules of the college it was written in the Latin language. He settled in Philadelphia, and in the year 1791 performed a very acceptable task to the Faculty by abridging the expensive voluminous and verbose system of Surgery by Benjamin Bell of Edinburgh, to which the late Dr. John Jones added a number



of useful practical notes. It was published in one large octavo volume.

The frame of Dr. Waters's body was slight, and his constitution delicate ; and shortly after his graduation symptoms of a pulmonary disease made their appearance. With the view of obtaining relief he went to the West Indies, and received temporary benefit. In the year 1790 he was united in marriage to Miss Hester Rittenhouse, the daughter of the eminent and amiable astronomer, David Rittenhouse of Philadelphia, with whom he enjoyed great happiness during the remainder of his short life. The pulmonary affection, however, with which he had long been threatened, made slow, but steady progress, and in the year 1796 he finished his earthly career to the great regret of the Medical Faculty, and all his acquaintance.

He was a man of great modesty and delicacy of sentiment, and of polished manners ; a hard student and of excellent talents in his profession. Had it pleased Providence to spare his life, there can be no doubt that he would have risen to eminence as a physician. He was appointed physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary, and was elected a member of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.—*Dr. Mease.*

WILLIAMSON, HUGH, M.D. LL.D., was a native of the state of Pennsylvania ; he was born on the 5th day of December, 1735, in West Nottingham township, near Octarara river, which divides Chester from Lancaster county. His parents were natives of Ireland, but their earlier ancestors, it is believed, came originally from Scotland.

His father, John Williamson, was an industrious tradesman, who had pursued his business, that of a clothier, in the city of Dublin. He came to America, and settled in Chester county, about the year 1730.

The mother of Dr. Williamson, Mary Davison, was a native of Derry ; with her father, George Davison, she came to this country when a child about three years of age ; on their way to America they were captured and plundered on the coast by Theach, the noted pirate Blackbeard ; upon being released they arrived in Philadelphia. She died about fifteen years since, having attained her 90th year. The parents of Dr. Williamson were married in the year 1731, shortly after his father's arrival in this country ; and ten children, viz. six sons and four daugh-

ters, were the fruits of that connexion. Hugh was their eldest son.

His parents were both distinguished for their undeviating integrity—their habits of industry and frugality—their great moral worth, and attention to the duties of religion. Of this parentage, Dr. Williamson was justly proud.

His father, observing that Hugh was of a slender, delicate constitution, and that he was not likely to attain to that vigor that would enable him to support himself by manual labor, resolved to give him a liberal education. After having received the common preparatory instruction of a country school, near his father's house, he was sent at an early age to learn the languages at an academy established at New-London Cross Roads, under the direction of that very eminent scholar, the Rev. Francis Alison.

In the prosecution of his studies, while at school, he distinguished himself by his diligence, his love of order, and his correct, moral and religious deportment ; for even at that early age he had imbibed from his parents and instructors, a due sense of that "intimate connexion which subsists between letters and morality, between sensibility and taste, between an improved mind and a virtuous heart."\* Accordingly, under the impulse of these first impressions, through life he

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"all his study bent  
To worship God aright, and know his works."

Thus prepared under the care of his eminent teachers, he retired from the seminary of Dr. Alison, and at his father's house applied himself to the study of Euclid's Elements, of which in a short time he became master. I may here observe that he discovered very early in life, a strong attachment to mathematical reasoning, and to that order and precision which the science of mathematics impresses upon the mind ; but his absolute want of a poetical talent was not less perceptible.

The father now proposed to send his son to Europe to finish his education that had been so successfully begun ; but, as a charter had been obtained for the academy in Philadelphia about the time he was to have sailed, it was concluded that he should immediately proceed to that city. Accordingly, he entered in the first class in the College of Philadelphia, where he remained four years ; and at the

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\* Johnson.

first commencement held in that college, on the 17th day of May, 1757, he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. A little anterior to this period, his father and family had removed to Shippensburgh, Cumberland County. His father died in the same year that his son received his first degree.

Hugh was appointed his sole executor, and, upon the event of his father's death, took up his residence with his mother at Shippensburgh, where he remained about two years, during which period he in a great degree devoted himself to the settlement of his father's estate, personally collecting the debts that were due to it, and which were very much scattered. By the fatigue of body, in connexion with the distress of mind he experienced upon the death of his father, his constitution received a shock which induced an alarming hypochondriasis, that was only relieved by travelling, and a release from the anxiety and care which his attention to business had imposed.

As has already been intimated, Mr. Williamson's mind was early impressed with a sense of religion. It is a remark of an excellent writer, who duly appreciates this union of the intellectual faculties with purity of moral character and conduct in life, "That knowledge only is of value which exalts the virtue, multiplies the comforts, soothes the sorrow, and improves the general felicity of human intercourse."\* With Mr. Williamson this sentiment was not a mere speculative opinion; it entered into the daily practice and pursuits of his life, and that love of truth and virtue which philosophy had taught him as a dignified sentiment, christianity consecrated as a religious duty. With this frame of mind, it was his original intention, and he considered it his duty, to prepare himself for the ministry, at the same time believing that occupation to be the most honorable and useful in which he could be engaged, and for which his piety and education had peculiarly qualified him. "It was remarkable," says a communication which I have received from his family, "that before he entered upon the study of divinity, while yet quite a young man, he visited and prayed with the sick in the neighborhood, and it was pleasing to the pious of those days to remark the fervency and devotion with which this young layman approached the throne of grace."

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\* Wakefield.

During the period of his residence with his mother, then a widow, he devoted all his time not occupied by the business of his father's estate, to the study of divinity, frequently visiting Dr. Samuel Finley, an eminent divine. In 1759 Mr. Williamson went to Connecticut, where he still pursued his theological studies, and was licensed to preach the gospel. After his return from Connecticut, he was also admitted a member of the presbytery of Philadelphia. He preached but a short time, not exceeding two years, and then his preaching must have been only occasional; he never was ordained, or took charge of a congregation, for his health did not permit him to perform the stated duties of a pastor. The infirm state of his health in early life made it very questionable whether his lungs would bear the exertions of public speaking; these apprehensions were now verified, for he became much troubled with pains and strictures of his chest, which led him to abandon the profession that was the first object of his choice, and to which he was from a sense of duty attached. The memorable controversy, too, which took place about that period in the Presbyterian church between the adherents of Mr. Whitefield, and those who considered themselves as the old and more orthodox party, also proved to him a source of great disgust, and, I am informed, had great influence in withdrawing him from his theological pursuits; he accordingly left the pulpit, and entered upon the study of medicine. To this science, it appears, he also had already manifested some predilection; his nephew remarks upon this subject "my mother can give but little information respecting the doctor's study of medicine; she, however, believes that this science must have been a favorite study with him long before he had determined to attend to it regularly, as she found him, when studying divinity, giving directions respecting inoculation for the smallpox."

In the year 1760 he received the degree of Master of Arts in the College of Philadelphia, and was immediately after appointed the professor of mathematics in that institution. He accepted the professorship, regarding it a most honorable appointment, but without any intention of neglecting his medical studies. It had been observed of

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\* Dr. Williamson in 1759 preached a discourse in the First Congregational Church of Plymouth, Massachusetts, previous to the arrival and settlement of the Rev. Dr. Chandler Robbins.—T.

him very early in life, that he had a strong natural fondness for mathematical investigation, and it was remarked that, while he was a student in college, all his public exercises and disputations partook so much of the mathematical form of reasoning, that he was considered by his fellow students as an adroit and obstinate antagonist.

On the 8th of October, 1763, as I am informed by my venerable friend, Bishop White, Mr. Williamson gave notice of his intended resignation of his professorship ; and in 1764 he left his native country for Europe, for the purpose of prosecuting his medical studies at the University of Edinburgh.

He remained in that city, enjoying the advantages of instruction afforded by the lectures of the elder Monro, Whytte, Cullen, Home, Alston, and Dr. John Gregory, the author of the *Legacy*. During his stay in Edinburgh, Mr. Williamson was occasionally confined to his chamber or bed by intermitting fevers and pains in the breast, so much so that he had nearly resolved to make a visit to Lisbon, or some other warm climate ; but, recovering from these complaints at the close of the lectures, he left Edinburgh, made a tour through the northern parts of Scotland, after which he proceeded to London, where he remained twelve months, diligently pursuing his studies, and, as at Edinburgh, by his zeal attracting the notice and kind attentions of his instructors. From London he crossed over to Holland, and proceeded to Utrecht, where he completed his medical education. Having passed the usual examination, in which he displayed his classical and medical attainments, and having submitted to the professors of that University a Latin thesis, he obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He afterwards amused himself with a tour on the continent, from which he returned to his native country in a state of health considerably improved.

After his return Dr. Williamson practised medicine in Philadelphia for some years with great success, as it respected the health of his patients, but with painful effects as it regarded his own. By the occasional loss of sleep, to which he was necessarily exposed, his constitution soon became considerably impaired ; and so acute was his sensibility to the sufferings of the sick, that he seldom had a patient, in imminent danger, without experiencing a febrile excitement of the system. He therefore resolved to aban-

don medicine, and to attempt the relief of his constitution by mercantile pursuits. Fortunately for the interests of science and, I may add, for our country, this resolution was not carried into effect until some years after this period. In the mean while Dr. Williamson remained in the city of Philadelphia.

Shortly after this time the attention of the philosophers both of Europe and America, was directed to an event which was about to take place, of great importance to astronomical science and to navigation : I refer to the transit of Venus over the sun's disk, which occurred on the third day of June, 1769. This phenomenon, which presented to the American mathematicians and astronomers an ample occasion for the display of their abilities in these departments of science, as might be expected, attracted great attention in the colonies. At a meeting of the American Philosophical Society, held on the 7th day of January, 1769, Dr. Hugh Williamson was appointed a member of a committee, consisting of Mr. David Rittenhouse, the Rev. Dr. Ewing, Dr. Smith, provost of the college, Mr. Charles Thompson, and others.

The contacts of the limbs of Venus and the sun, as observed and drawn up by Dr. Williamson, together with the determination of the sun's parallax and distance, as derived from those observations, are communicated to the world in the first volume of the 'Transactions of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia.

The observations published on that memorable occasion, by the Rev. Dr. Ewing, Mr. David Rittenhouse, the Rev. Dr. Smith, by Professor Winthrop of Massachusetts, as well as those by Dr. Williamson, and other American astronomers, were considered by the philosophers of Europe as highly creditable to their authors, and of great importance to the cause of science. By the astronomer royal, the Rev. Mr. Nevil Maskelyne, they were referred to with peculiar notice and approbation.

Soon after this event, the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, sensible of the correctness and ability with which the labors referred to had been conducted, appointed the same committee, of which Dr. Williamson had been an active member, to observe the transit of Mercury, which was to take place on the 9th day of November of the same year. The observations of Dr. Williamson, with the elements of his calculation of that transit, are also con-

tained in the same important volume of the American Transactions.

In the month of September, of the same momentous year, a considerable degree of public alarm was excited by the appearance of a remarkable comet. Its tail was of vast extent, subtending an arch of ten or fifteen degrees. Dr. Williamson, who had reflected much upon subjects of this nature, could not allow himself to believe that comets, more than other heavenly bodies, were destructive masses of fire. Having considered the subject with great attention, he presented to the American Philosophical Society a theory which seems to have been perfectly new, and which he ever claimed as his own. The paper he at that time published, has been lately rewritten, and in an improved form has been again communicated to the public in the first volume of the Transactions of the Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York.

In the following year, 1770, Dr. Williamson prepared and published, through the same channel of communication, some observations upon the change of climate that had been remarked to take place more particularly in the middle colonies of North America. The doctor had ascertained that, within the last forty or fifty years, the winters had not been so intensely cold, nor the summers so disagreeably warm, as they had been in the earlier settlement of the country ; and that during the same period a very observable change had also taken place in the character of the prevailing diseases ; that the fevers which had for many years maintained a fatal reign through many parts of this country, were then evidently on the decline ; and that inflammatory fevers, with the several diseases of cold seasons, had been observed to remit their violence as the winters had become more temperate. To account for these facts was the object of that communication. The view taken of this subject gave an interest to that paper which caused it to be extensively read and circulated. In Europe it received the most respectful notice, and greatly extended the name and fame of its author. The publication of this interesting paper, with those which had preceded it, not only procured for Dr. Williamson the notice of the various literary institutions of his native country, but they obtained for him abroad the most flattering distinctions. The Holland Society of Sciences, the Society of Arts and Sciences of Utrecht, conferred upon him, in

the most honorable manner, a membership in those distinguished institutions ; and about the same period he received from a foreign university the degree of Doctor of Laws.

New scenes now opened upon his view. From some letters addressed by Dr. Williamson to his friend, the late Rev. Dr. Ewing, it appears that in 1772 the doctor made a voyage to the West India islands, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions for the academy of Newark, in the state of Delaware, of which institution he and Dr. Ewing were trustees. Exceedingly anxious for the prosperity of the academy, while he was yet in the islands, he planned a tour through Great Britain for the benefit of that institution ; his project was communicated to the trustees, and received their approbation ; accordingly, in the autumn of 1773, Dr. Williamson, in conjunction with Dr. Ewing, afterwards Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, was appointed to make a tour through England, Scotland and Ireland, to solicit further benefactions for the same academy of Newark.

Thus honorably associated, they were received with great attention by the literati and other men of influence in Great Britain ; a circumstance in itself highly favorable to the object of their mission. Their success, however, was but indifferent.

The constant hope of accommodation with the colonies, and the example of the King, from whom they received a liberal donation, notwithstanding his great displeasure towards his American subjects, encouraged them to persevere in the business of their mission until the autumn of 1775. Hostilities having then commenced, Dr. Ewing returned to America, leaving Dr. Williamson in London, who determined to remain and to make some further efforts for the establishment of his favorite academy. But I must return to some circumstances of importance which here claim our notice.

The vessel in which Dr. Williamson had engaged passage for Europe, lay in the harbor of Boston, to which place he had proceeded, and was waiting for her sailing at the very time at which that remarkable circumstance took place, the destruction of the tea of the East India Company. Upon Dr. Williamson's arrival in England, he was the first to report to the British Government that occurrence ; and, after a private interview with Lord Dartmouth, was examined on the subject before his Majesty's



Privy Council : that examination took place on the 19th of February, 1774. On that occasion Dr. Williamson ventured to declare that, if the coercive measures of Parliament were persisted in, nothing less than a civil war would be the result. Time soon verified his prediction ; but the want of correct information on the part of the British ministry as to the state of public feeling in this country, seems almost incredible. Lord North himself has been heard to declare that Dr. Williamson was the first person who, in his hearing, had even intimated the probability of such an event.\*

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\* While Dr. Williamson was at Boston, he became acquainted with Messrs. Adams, Warren, Otis, and other selectmen. On the 22d of December, 1773, a few days after the tea was destroyed, he sailed from Boston for London in a ship that belonged to Mr. Hancock. Governor Hutchinson had sent his despatches by a brig that sailed some days before the ship. She belonged to a man of other politics. In that brig sailed three gentlemen passengers. The ship arrived six days before the brig. In the mean time, Dr. Williamson, in conversation with Lord Dartmouth, had detailed the events at Boston. The three gentlemen who arrived in the brig, were immediately examined, and their evidence, signed and sworn to before the Privy Council, was afterwards communicated to Parliament. Dr. Williamson being sent for, was at first examined before two or three public officers, about the 1st of February, 1774, preparatory to his being examined before the Privy Council. From the several questions that had been put to him, and the direct answers, he concluded that no satisfactory knowledge could have been acquired of the late incidents in Boston : therefore, when he returned to his lodging, he wrote a regular detail of the several material incidents he had observed in Boston, which included an answer to the several questions that had been put to him, and a statement of sundry facts. When he attended the next day at the Horse-Guards, where the Privy Council sat, an officer read to him what had been written as his answer to the questions that had been propounded. He objected to the whole as incorrect, and handed him the narrative he had written. After that officer had informed the council of the Doctor's objections to the answers as written, the Doctor was called in, and the Lord President informed him that they would receive his narrative, but wished to ask him a few more questions. The clerk wrote his answer to one of the questions so very incorrectly, as to convey an idea very different from what was intended ; of this the Doctor complained, and the clerk was properly reprimanded. When the examination was finished, an officer, the Attorney General, handed the Doctor a book, and a pen, that he might swear and sign his name. He laid down the pen, requesting their lordships to believe that he was not in the habit of saying things that he was not willing to swear ; but, although he had studied medicine and not law, he knew so much of the law as that a witness should not be examined concerning any fact that might endanger a man's life, unless the party was present by whom he might be interrogated. This, he said, was counted to be the law in England ; he could not tell whether it would pass for law in America : "*But if the measures were about to be pursued by Parliament against America, which out of doors were said to be intended, the time was not far distant, when his native country would be deluged with blood.*" "*This hand,*" said he, "*shall be guiltless of that blood*" The Lord Chancellor assured him, that the examination and oath now taken could not be used against any man who might be prosecuted, and tried for life ; and the president declared upon his honor that it had been the custom, time out of mind, to examine witnesses upon oath before the Privy Council, consequently this could not be considered as setting a novel precedent. Dr. Williamson then subscribed the narrative. The examinations of the other three gentlemen were communicated to Parliament, but Dr. W. understood that his examination had not been communicated, nor could he think

We now come to an event memorable by the commotion it excited at the time, and by the magnitude of the consequences which have since arisen from it ; I refer to the discovery of the celebrated Letters of Hutchinson and Oliver : and here I beg leave to call your notice to a few of the earlier circumstances of the late revolutionary war, in order to communicate a fact hitherto unrevealed.

Although the disturbances which originated in the famous stamp act, had nearly subsided with the repeal of that noxious measure, and returning sentiments of friendship were every day becoming more manifest, yet new obstacles to a permanent reconciliation appeared in the attempts of the British administration to render certain officers of the provincial governments dependent on the crown alone. This measure of the court gave particular offence to the colony of Massachusetts, from the peculiarly obnoxious character of their governor, who, impelled by avarice and by the love of dominion, had, in furtherance of his schemes of self-aggrandizement, uniformly manifested the most determined support to the views and measures of the mother country. However discreditable to his reputation it may be, certain it is that Governor Hutchinson was secretly laboring to subvert the chartered rights of the colony, whose interests he had sworn to protect. His agency in procuring the passage of the stamp act was more than suspected, and apparently upon reasonable grounds.

The illustrious Franklin, who had recently rendered himself conspicuous by his examination before a commit-

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of any reason why it should have been suppressed, unless that he had observed in the course of his narrative, that the selectmen in Boston caused a guard to be placed over the tea ships, for the double purpose, as they alleged, of preventing the tea from being smuggled on shore, and of preventing evil-minded persons from destroying the ships or tea ; for they had determined that both should return to London. As that fact seemed to invalidate the charge of the premeditated intention of the selectmen to destroy the tea, which charge, however, was of great use to the administration in their desire to cripple the town of Boston, it may have caused the suppression of his evidence. [The author of this memoir is in possession of the original draft of Dr. Williamson's narrative communicated to the Privy Council.]

It is a remarkable circumstance, that neither Governor Hutchinson, of Massachusetts, nor any other man in the service of the governor, should have had the candor to intimate to the Prime Minister that resistance might be the effect of severe measures.

In October, 1776, Lord North, having sent for Mr. Ralph Izard, then in London, and Dr. Williamson, to ask their opinion concerning the operation of a particular law, told the Doctor that he, in presence of the Privy Council, was the first person that ever had intimated, in his hearing, the probability of a civil war in America.

The particular facts contained in this note, were communicated to the writer by Dr. Williamson, a short time before his decease.

tee of the British Privy Council, and who at this period resided in London as agent for the colonies of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, obtained possession, through the agency of a third person, of certain letters written by Governor Hutchinson ; Secretary Oliver, afterwards Lieutenant Governor ; Charles Paxton, Esquire, and other servants of the crown ; and sent by them from Boston to Thomas Whately, Esquire, Member of Parliament, and a private Secretary of Lord Grenville.

In these letters the character of the people of Massachusetts was painted in the most odious colors, and their grievances and proceedings misrepresented by falsehoods the most glaring and unfounded. It would seem to have been equally the object of Governor Hutchinson and his coadjutors, to furnish excuses for the ministry, already sufficiently disposed to adopt every measure of severity towards the colonists through the prejudiced representations of Bernard and his commissioners ; and to poison the minds of the opposition, who had on most occasions proved themselves their warm advocates.

Dr. Franklin lost no time in transmitting these letters to his constituents at Boston. "The indignation and animosity which were excited, on their perusal, knew no bounds. The House of Representatives agreed on a petition and remonstrance to his Majesty, in which they charged their Governor and Lieutenant Governor with being betrayers of their trust, and of the people they governed ; and of giving private, partial and false information. They also declared them enemies to the colonies, and prayed for justice against them, and for their speedy removal from their places."\*

Their petition and the remonstrance of the people of Massachusetts were communicated to his Majesty's Privy Council by Dr. Franklin in person, and, after hearing by that board, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor were acquitted. It was on this occasion that Mr. Wedderburn, afterwards Lord Loughborough, who was employed as counsel on the part of the Governor, pronounced his famous philippic against Dr. Franklin ; which has always been considered among the most finished specimens of oratory in the English language. In this speech he charged that venerable character with having procured the letters

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\* *Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Franklin*, 4to. p. 183. Lond. ed. 1818.

by unfair means. "The letters could not have come to Dr. Franklin," says Mr. Wedderburn, "by fair means ; the writers did not give them to him, nor yet did the deceased correspondent, Mr. Whately, who, from our intimacy, would have told me of it : nothing then will acquit Dr. Franklin of the charge of obtaining them by fraudulent or corrupt means, for the most malignant of purposes: unless he stole them from the person who stole them. This argument is irrefragable.

"I hope, my lords, you will mark and brand the man, for the honor of this country, of Europe, and of mankind. Private correspondence has hitherto been held sacred at times of the greatest party rage ; not only in politics, but religion." "He has forfeited all the respect of societies and of men. Into what companies will he hereafter go with an unembarrassed face, or the honest intrepidity of virtue ? Men will watch him with a jealous eye ; they will hide their papers from him, and lock up their escrutoires. He will henceforth esteem it a libel to be called a *man of letters*, *HOMO TRIUM LITERARUM*."\*

A controversy having taken place in the public prints between Mr. William Whately, the brother of the secretary to whom the letters had been addressed and who was now dead, and Mr., afterwards Sir John Temple, arising out of the manner in which the letters of Governor Hutchinson had been procured and transmitted to Boston, and which dispute was followed by a duel between those two gentlemen, Dr. Franklin, in order to prevent any further mischief, published a letter in the newspapers, in which he assumed the entire responsibility of sending the papers to America. Alluding to this letter of Dr. Franklin, Mr. Wedderburn continued :

"But he not only took away the letters from one brother, but kept himself concealed till he had nearly occasioned the murder of the other. It is impossible to read his account, expressive of the coolest and most deliberate malice, without horror. Amid these tragical events, of one person nearly murdered, of another answerable for the issue ; of a worthy governor hurt in his dearest interest ; the fate of America is in suspense. Here is a man, who with the utmost insensibility of remorse stands up and

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\* *Memoirs of Franklin*, 4to. Vol. I. Appendix. See also the letters of Governor Hutchinson, and Lieutenant Governor Oliver, &c. and remarks thereon, by Israel Maudit, with the assembly's address, &c. 2d edition. London, 1774.

avows himself the author of all : I can compare it only to Zanga, in Dr. Young's *Revenge* :—

‘ Know then ’twas I—  
I forged the letter—I disposed the picture—  
I hated—I despised—and I destroy.’

“ I ask, my lords, whether the revengeful temper, attributed by poetic fiction only to the bloody African, is not surpassed by the coolness and apathy of the wily American ?”

The speeches of Mr. Dunning, afterwards Lord Ashburton, and Mr. Lee, who appeared as counsel in behalf of the assembly of Massachusetts, were never reported at length ; but they chiefly insisted upon the noxious parts of the letters of Hutchinson and Oliver.

By the preceding extracts from the speech of Mr. Wedderburn, it will be seen that the chief subject of his vehement invective was the disclosure, by Dr. Franklin, of what was termed by the Parliamentary orator a private correspondence.\* But the truth is, these letters could not be considered in any wise as private ; but were as public as letters could be. To use the emphatic language of Dr. Franklin himself, “ They were not of the nature of private letters between friends ; they were written by public officers to persons in public stations, on public affairs, and intended to procure public measures : they were therefore handed to other public persons, who might be influenced by them to produce those measures. Their tendency was to incense the mother country against her colonies, and by the steps recommended to widen the breach, which they effected. The chief caution expressed with regard to privacy was, to keep their contents from the colony agents, who, the writers apprehended, might return them, or copies of them, to America. That apprehension was, it seems, well founded ; for the first agent who laid his hands on them, thought it his duty to transmit them to his constituents.”

Thus Dr. Franklin performed a service which his situation as a public agent required of him. But, notwithstanding the secrecy with which it had been conducted, the letters were soon after published by the Assembly of Massachusetts ; not, however, until after the appearance of

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\* Dr. Priestley, who was present when Lord Loughborough pronounced his violent invective against Dr. Franklin, before the Privy Council, has published an interesting letter respecting Dr. Franklin's behavior on that occasion.

other copies in Boston, produced by a member who, it was reported, had just received them from England.

But it is time that I should declare to you that this third person, from whom Dr. Franklin received these famous letters, (and permit me to add, that this is the first time the fact has been publicly disclosed,) was Dr. Hugh Williamson.

I have before stated his mission in behalf of the academy. Dr. Williamson had now arrived in London. Feeling a lively interest in the momentous questions then agitated, and suspecting that a clandestine correspondence hostile to the interest of the colonies, was carried on between Hutchinson and certain leading members of the British Cabinet, he determined to ascertain the truth by a bold experiment.

He had learned that Governor Hutchinson's letters were deposited in an office different from that in which they ought regularly to have been placed ; and, having understood that there was little exactness in the transaction of the business of that office, (it is believed it was the office of a particular department of the treasury,) he immediately repaired to it, and addressed himself to the chief clerk, not finding the principal within. Assuming the demeanor of official importance, he peremptorily stated that he had come for the last letters that had been received from Governor Hutchinson and Mr. Oliver, noticing the office in which they ought regularly to have been placed. Without any question being asked, the letters were delivered. The clerk, doubtless, supposed him to be an authorized person from some other public office. Dr. Williamson immediately carried them to Dr. Franklin, and the next day left London for Holland.

I received this important fact from a gentleman of high respectability, now living ; with whom, as the companion and friend of his early days, Dr. Williamson had entrusted the secret.\*

By this daring measure, were detected and put beyond question, the misrepresentations and design of Hutchinson and his associates ; and, perhaps, no event in the previous history of the provinces excited more bitter indignation, or was more calculated to call for opposition to the

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\* See Additional Documents.

measures of Great Britain, to which these misrepresentations had given rise. (See Notes at the end of this volume.)

The lively interest and the conspicuous part which Dr. Williamson took in public affairs, did not prevent him, while in England, from bestowing a portion of his attention upon scientific pursuits. Electricity, whose laws had been recently determined by the discoveries of Dr. Franklin, and by his genius introduced among the sciences, was then a study which largely engrossed the minds of philosophers. In conjunction with Dr. Ingenhouz, Mr. Walsh, Mr. John Hunter, and Dr. Franklin, he frequently instituted electrical experiments. The only paper which bears testimony to his investigations on this subject, is that entitled, "Experiments and Observations on the *Gymnotus Electricus*, or Electrical Eel," which was first published in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, for the year 1775. Like the experiments of Mr. Walsh, those of Dr. Williamson led to a belief that the shock given by the *gymnotus electricus*, was truly an electrical phenomenon.

Dr. Williamson had scarcely made his tour through Holland and the Low Countries, when the news of the declaration of American Independence reached him. He now concluded to return to his native land. He proceeded to France, and after a short time spent in that kingdom, during a great part of which he was confined by sickness, he sailed from Nantz in December, for Philadelphia, at which place he did not arrive before the 15th of March. The ship in which he sailed was captured off the Capes of Delaware, but he, with another passenger, escaped in an open boat with some very important public despatches, of which Dr. Williamson was the bearer.

The American army, at the period of Dr. Williamson's return from Europe, was in some measure organized, and every office in the Medical Staff, or in the line, that he could with any propriety accept, was filled up. True it was, that he had strong claims to public employment, and the proofs were in his possession; but those claims he could not at that time urge without endangering individuals who were on the other side of the Atlantic, nor could he do it without a breach of confidence, a species of crime that he cordially abhorred. He resolved, therefore, to remain in private life, waiting for opportunities which he trusted would present themselves in the course of a dangerous

struggle. In the mean time he undertook a journey to Charleston, in South Carolina, with a younger brother, on a mercantile speculation. His brother sailed from Charleston for a neutral port in the West Indies. The Doctor, in company with another gentleman, purchased a sloop in Charleston, and, having loaded her with a suitable cargo intended for Baltimore, ordered her for Edenton, in North Carolina ; but before his arrival at Edenton General Howe, with the British army, on his way to Philadelphia, had entered Chesapeak Bay. That circumstance determined the Doctor to continue in Edenton, from which he afterwards traded to neutral islands in the West Indies ; but while he thus continued his mercantile connexion with his brother, then also engaged in the West India trade, he determined to resume the practice of medicine.

During the period of his residence there, he was invited to Newbern, for the purpose of communicating the small-pox to such as had not experienced the benefits of inoculation. These circumstances in part contributed to spread the name of Dr. Williamson, and to lay the foundation of that fame and confidence which he afterwards obtained in the State of North Carolina.

The Doctor had taken an early opportunity of informing the governor of that province, that if any circumstance should occur in the course of the war, in which he could be of use to the state, he might immediately command his services. It is known that the British troops took possession of Charleston in the winter of 1779—1780, and that the assembly of North Carolina ordered a large draft to be made from their militia, of from four to six thousand men, who should join the regular troops then ordered for the relief of South Carolina. The command of the North Carolina militia was given to their late Governor Caswell, with the rank of Major General. The General, putting Dr. Williamson in mind of a former promise, handed him a commission, by which he found himself at the head of the medical department, as physician and surgeon.

An occasion now presented itself, in which the Doctor had an opportunity of displaying his firmness of character, his humanity, his professional skill, and his incorruptible adherence to the cause in which he had embarked. On the morning after the battle near Camden, on the 18th of August, 1780, which the Doctor witnessed, he fell in with General Caswell, and requested of him to give him a



flag, observing that, although a great part of the militia had behaved ill, yet many of them, as he must have observed, fought with distinguished bravery, and that a considerable number, in consequence, were wounded and made prisoners. They claimed our attention. The General advised him to send in some of the regimental surgeons, observing that his duty did not require that service from him. The Doctor replied that the regimental surgeons, such of them as he had seen, refused to go; being, as he suspected, afraid of the consequences. But, said he, if I have lived until a flag will not protect me, I have outlived my country; and, in that case, have lived one day too long. To this observation, no reply was made; he obtained a pass, and the necessary instructions. He remained two months with the enemy in Camden, during which time he rendered very essential services to the prisoners committed to his care.

Early in the spring of 1782 Dr. Williamson took his seat as a representative of Edenton, in the House of Commons of North Carolina. In that assembly he fortunately met with several members whose brothers, sons, or other connexions, he had served in the army, or while they were prisoners. Those services were not forgotten. It was to be expected that a gentleman who had seen much of the world, and whose education had been so extensive, could hardly fail, with the aid of moderate oratorical abilities, to become an influential member in a deliberative body. Such in fact he proved. Among other bills which he introduced with success, we find one for erecting a court of chancery, which had often been attempted, in vain, in that state. It may be presumed that old members, who had been accustomed to conduct the business of that house, were not gratified with being left in the minority by a gentleman who was, at that time, comparatively a stranger in their state. Yet, when the election came on for members of congress, those very gentlemen added their influence to that of the friends he had acquired in the army, and he immediately was sent to the general congress without opposition. He continued at the head of the delegation for three years, the longest time that any member was then permitted to serve.

During the three years in which he was not eligible to hold a seat in that body, he served the state occasionally in its legislature, or in some other capacity.

In the year 1786 he was one of the few members who were sent to Annapolis, to revise and amend the constitution of the United States. In that year Dr. Williamson published a series of Essays, deprecating paper currency, and recommending an excise to be imposed. In the year 1787 he was one of the delegates from North Carolina, in the general convention at Philadelphia, who formed and signed the present constitution of the United States.

As the State of North Carolina had at that time in circulation two large emissions of paper money, which were a legal tender, and which had depreciated to less than half of its nominal value, we are not surprised that a majority of its citizens should have looked on the federal constitution with an evil eye ; for debtors, as we presume, in most countries form the majority. It followed that the Doctor, who advocated the new constitution with great zeal as well as ability, lost a portion of his popularity in the state he had represented ; he was, nevertheless, again chosen in December, 1787, by the general assembly, to take his seat in congress the succeeding spring, when he would be again eligible, having been three years absent from that body. The assembly at the same time passed a law for a general state convention, to be held at Hillsborough in July, 1788, for the purpose of determining upon the constitution that had been proposed. The convention, after much debate, adjourned on the 2d of August, having refused to adopt the proposed constitution by a majority of more than two to one, viz. one hundred and eighty-four to eighty-four.

The next general assembly, in December, 1788, passed a law calling another convention, to meet in the following year. It may be recollected that, eleven of the states having adopted the new constitution, it was immediately after carried into operation, and the first congress met in New-York, in the year 1789. It happened a short time after that congress met, of which Dr. Williamson was a member, several small vessels laden with naval stores arrived from North Carolina at the port of New-York. The Collector of the customs refused them entrance, unless they should pay the alien duty, which was six to one of the domestic. Dr. Williamson, who continued in New-York after the dissolution of the old congress, as a commissioner to settle the accounts of North Carolina with the United States, drew up and presented to congress a

spirited protest against the decision of the Collector ; at the same time urging the fact, that North Carolina had not by any act forfeited her claim to be considered as one of the United States. This protest, in twenty-four hours, produced a law, by which the Carolina vessels were allowed to enter upon paying the domestic tonnage. By that interposition and attention to the interests of North Carolina, the Doctor more than regained his former popularity. When the first convention sat, he was attending in congress ; but he was chosen, and attended as a member of the second convention in 1789, by which the constitution was adopted by a majority of two to one. The Doctor's congressional career was now to terminate. He had been chosen a representative from North Carolina in the first and second congress ; but, desirous of retiring from political life, he, at a new election, declined being a candidate.

Before I pass on to other circumstances connected with the career of Dr. Williamson, I beg to be indulged in one or two remarks on the character and influence of his political life. We have seen, that as a representative of the people in the legislature of North Carolina, and in the supreme council of the nation, he was occupied many years. No man, I believe, ever enjoyed in a larger degree the confidence of his constituents for integrity of conduct ; and the influence of his character will be readily appreciated, when we advert to the many important services he effected during the most eventful period of our political history.

He was anxious to prove himself worthy of the high trust reposed in him, nor did he ever permit any private or selfish views to interfere with considerations of public interest. As chairman of numerous committees, as the mover of important resolutions, as the framer of new propositions and new laws, he devoted the best energies of an active mind, and was ever prominent in the business of the house. In debate his elocution was striking, but somewhat peculiar. The graces of oratory did not belong to Dr. Williamson ; yet the known purity of his intentions, his inflexible devotedness to the interests of his country, and the unblemished tenor of his private life, awakened an attention which was well supported by the pertinency of his observations, the soundness of his reasoning, and the information he possessed upon every subject to which he

directed his attention. While in congress, his duties as a legislator were his exclusive study ; and this advantage seldom failed of a success which was denied to the lengthened debate and declamation of his opponents.

In January, 1789, Doctor Williamson was married to Miss Maria Apthorpe, daughter of the late Honorable Charles Ward Apthorpe, formerly a member of his Majesty's Council for the province of New-York ; by that lady he had two sons ; she died when the youngest was but a few days old.

After the loss he had sustained by the death of Mrs. Williamson, he resolved to retire from public employment ; to settle his private affairs ; to prepare for publication his work on Climate, and his more elaborate performance, his History of North Carolina : but the object of attention which lay still nearer his heart, and which especially induced him to withdraw from the very honorable station he had held, was the education of his children ; to them he devoted, with great solicitude, a large portion of his time and attention. His eldest son, who died in 1811, in the 22d year of his age, gave evidence of the parental care that had been exercised in the superintendence of his education, and of the success with which it had been conducted.

In 1811 his " Observations on the climate in different parts of America, compared with the climate in corresponding parts of the other Continent," were published, in one volume, 8vo. In the following year, 1812, appeared his History of North Carolina, in two volumes, 8vo. The author commences his undertaking with a short account of the discoveries made in America by adventurers from the different parts of Europe. He next relates the attempts of Sir Walter Raleigh to settle a colony in North Carolina, and from that time the history of that colony is continued down to the beginning of the American revolution : the work closes with a view of the soil, produce, and general state of health in different parts of that country. In the proofs and explanations annexed to each volume, are inserted many valuable documents, selected with care, illustrative of matters contained in the body of the text.

There are other writings by the same author, of a minor nature, which merit notice. He was at no time an indifferent spectator of passing events ; and, even after he had actually withdrawn from public life, was repeatedly en-

gaged, exclusively of his works on climate and on North Carolina, in various publications relating to natural history, medicine, and other branches of a philosophical character. In 1797 Dr. Williamson wrote a short but important paper on the fevers of North Carolina, as they had prevailed in 1792, in Martin county, near the river Roanoke, and as they had appeared in 1794, upon the river Neus, pointing out the treatment that had been found most successful, and the fatal effects of bloodletting in fevers of that type : these remarks were afterwards extended, and composed a chapter in his *History of North Carolina*, highly interesting both to the pupil and practitioner of medicine. In the *American Museum*, by Matthew Carey, he published several fugitive pieces on languages and politics. In his communication on the Fascination of Serpents, published in the *Medical Repository*, he offers some new and ingenious opinions on that still inexplicable phenomenon in natural history.

Upon the appearance of the yellow fever in New-York, in 1805, Dr. Williamson was appointed by the corporation of the city, one of a Medical Committee to investigate the particular character and origin of the cases that occurred at the commencement of the pestilence of that season. From all that the Doctor had previously seen, as well as the facts that now fell under his view, he was led to the belief, with the other members of that committee, that the yellow fever is a disease *sui generis*, and consequently of a nature altogether different from the bilious remittent fever of this country.

He enriched the *American Medical and Philosophical Register* with several valuable papers. The first, entitled "Remarks upon the incorrect manner in which Iron Rods are sometimes set up for defending Houses from Lightning," &c. conveys some important practical instruction upon that subject.\* His other papers were, "Conjectures respecting the Native Climate of Pestilence ;" "Observations on Navigable Canals ;" "Observations on the means of preserving the Commerce of New-York," and "Additional Observations on Navigable Canals ;" all printed in the same periodical journal, under the signatures of *Observer*, or *Mercator*. Dr. Williamson was among the first of our citizens who entertained correct views as to the practica-

bility of forming a canal to connect the waters of Lake Erie with the Hudson River.

In the year 1810 Dr. Williamson was appointed by the New-York Historical Society to deliver the anniversary discourse, illustrative of the objects of that institution ; he readily complied with their request, and upon that occasion selected for his subject, "the benefits of Civil History."

In 1814, associated with the present governor\* of this state, and some other gentlemen friendly to the interests of science, and desirous to promote the literary reputation of the state of New-York, Dr. Williamson took an active part in the formation and establishment of the Literary and Philosophical Society of this city ; and contributed to its advancement by the publication of a valuable paper in the first volume of its transactions. As a Trustee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the University of the State of New-York, he not only performed its duties with vigilance and impartiality, but contributed to its interests by a liberal pecuniary appropriation. Some other institutions of this city were also aided by similar acts of his beneficence, especially the Orphan Asylum, and the Society for the Relief of Poor Widows with small children. To these his donations were such as his moderate fortune enabled him to bestow, consistently with his obligations to his family connexions ; to whom, with the exception of a few inconsiderable legacies, he left the residue of his estate. The Humane Society, the City Dispensary, and the New-York Hospital, received a large portion of his time and attention during the remaining years of his life. In the last mentioned establishment, the punctuality and ability with which he performed the numerous duties assigned him, were subjects of great surprise to his associate junior members.

His quickness of perception, his memory, his judgment and his external senses, all manifested an uncommon activity to the very last days of his life. This exemption from the ordinary defects and privations attendant upon old age, is doubtless ascribable to his temperate and regular habits of living ; the order and method with which he performed all his various duties ; and especially to that rigid abstinence from all vinous and spirituous drinks, to which

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\* His Excellency De Witt Clinton.

system of living he had so peculiarly adhered from his earliest days.

The life of this excellent man was now drawing to its close. Hitherto, by means of the uniform temperance and regularity of his habits, he had, with very few exceptions, been protected from any return of those pulmonary complaints with which he had been affected in his youth. His intellectual faculties remained to the last period of his life unbroken, and in their full vigor.

It is somewhere said, that to an active and well disciplined mind, a chair in a library is the throne of human felicity. No man enjoyed the luxury of literary pursuits more than Dr. Williamson. These, with the society of his particular friends, added to the consolations afforded by religion, and the recollection of a life passed in the performance of duty, and devoted to the benefit of his fellow men, gilded the evening of his days, and rendered them no less cheerful and serene than had been the morning and meridian of his long and useful career.

For some time, however, after the death of his favorite son, his strength and spirits were observed to decline. In two or three years his ankles began to swell, attended with other symptoms denoting the approach of general dropsy. Although he had recourse to the Ballston chalybeate, by the middle of April, 1816, the swelling of the limbs and symptoms of a dropsical affection of the chest had so far increased, that for several weeks he could not lie in a horizontal posture, but was compelled to sleep sitting in his chair; by the use, however, of powerful diuretics, succeeded by tonic medicines and daily exercise, his complaints in a few months were chiefly removed, and he was restored to his usual pursuits and his wonted cheerfulness, which were continued to the day of his decease.

This event took place on the 22d day of May, 1819, in the 85th year of his age, and in the sudden manner he himself had anticipated. While taking his accustomed ride a short distance from the city, accompanied by his favorite niece, the heat of the day being unusually great, he suddenly sunk into a deliquium. Medical assistance was immediately called, but too late; his spirit had fled to Him who gave it.

It remains for me to detain you, while I offer a few observations illustrative of such parts of Dr. Williamson's

character as are not embraced in the details that have already occupied our attention.

To those who have not enjoyed a personal acquaintance with him, I may remark that he was no less distinguished for the manliness of his form, than for the energy and firmness of his mind. Dr. Williamson in his person was tall, considerably above the general standard, of a large frame, well proportioned, but of a thin habit of body. He was remarkable for his erect, dignified carriage, which he retained even in the decline of life.

In his conversation Dr. Williamson was pleasant, facetious and animated; occasionally indulging in wit and satire; always remarkable for the strength of his expressions, and an emphatic manner of utterance, accompanied with a peculiarity of gesticulation, originally in part ascribable to the impulse of an active mind, but which early in life had become an established habit.

As was to be expected from the education of Dr. Williamson, and from his long and extensive intercourse with the world, his manners, though in some respects eccentric, were generally those of a polite, well bred gentleman. Occasionally, however, when he met with persons who either displayed great ignorance, want of moral character, or a disregard to religious truth, he expressed his feelings and opinions in such manner as distinctly to show them they possessed no claim to his respect. To such, both his language and manner might be considered as abrupt, if not possessing a degree of what might be denominated Johnsonian rudeness.

His style, both in conversation and in writing, was simple, concise, perspicuous and remarkable for its strength; always displaying correctness of thought and logical precision. In the order, too, and disposal of his discourse, whether oral or written, such was the close connexion of its parts, and the dependence of one proposition upon that which preceded it, that it became easy to discern the influence of his early predilection for mathematical investigation.

Under the impressions and precepts he had very early received, no circumstances could ever induce him to depart from that line of conduct which his understanding had informed him was correct. His constancy of character, the obstinacy I may say of his integrity, whether in the minor concerns of private life or in the performance



of his public duties, became proverbial with all who knew him. Nothing could ever induce him

“To swerve from truth, or change his constant mind.”

The following anecdotes are illustrative of his characteristic integrity. A few years since a gentleman of this city, desirous of borrowing a sum of money, made an application to Dr. Williamson for that purpose : the Doctor promised to supply him ; but, upon the day when the transaction was to be completed, the gentleman not knowing that the Doctor's verbal promise and his written bond were of the same validity, and apprehending that something might occur to prevent the Doctor from complying with his engagement, offered him a larger interest than that recognised by law. The Doctor, offended by this insult to his integrity, at once declined further communication with the party concerned, and refused the loan he otherwise had been prepared to make.

Upon another more important occasion, he manifested somewhat similar feelings in rejecting a powerful appeal to his pride and, I may add, to his reputation.

Joseph Ceracchi, an Italian statuary of great celebrity in his profession, finding the turbulent state of Europe unfavorable to the exercise of his art, had come to this country. This gentleman exercised his talents in erecting honorary memorials of some of our most distinguished public men. The busts of Washington, President Adams, Governor Jay, General Hamilton, Governor George Clinton, and Colonel John Trumbull, are eminent examples of his art.

He at that time also applied to Dr. Williamson, then a member of congress, for permission to perpetuate in marble, the bust of the American Cato, as Mr. Ceracchi was pleased to denominate him. I beg leave to read the originals :

“Mr. Ceracchi requests the favor of Mr. Williamson to sit for his bust, not on account of getting Mr. Williamson's influence in favor of the National Monument ; this is a subject too worthy to be recommended ; but merely on account of his distinguished character, that will produce honor to the artist, and may give to posterity the expressive features of the American Cato.”

To this note Dr. Williamson replied in his appropriate caustic style : “Mr. Hugh Williamson is much obliged to

Mr. Ceracchi for the polite offer of taking his bust. Mr. Williamson could not possibly suppose that Mr. Ceracchi had offered such a compliment by way of a bribe ; for the man in his public station who could accept of a bribe, or betray his trust, ought never to have his likeness made, except from a block of *wood*.

“ Mr. Williamson, in the mean time, cannot avail himself of Mr. Ceracchi’s services, as he believes that posterity will not be solicitous to know what were the features of his face. He hopes, nevertheless, for the sake of his children, that posterity will do him the justice to believe that his conduct was upright, and that he was uniformly influenced by a regard to the happiness of his fellow-citizens, and those who shall come after them.”

“ *Philadelphia, 11th April, 1792.*”

To those who knew his unbending resolution when once formed, it need not be added that Dr. Williamson, offended by this flattery, persisted in his determination not to sit to Mr. Ceracchi.

The steadiness of his private attachments ought not to be passed over in silence. Dr. Williamson was slow in forming his friendship ; but when formed, as the writer of this memorial of his worth can testify, it was immovable, and not to be changed by time or distance.

Whatever may be the merits of Dr. Williamson as a scholar, a physician, a statesman, or philosopher ; however he may be distinguished for his integrity, his benevolence, and those virtues which enter into the moral character of man ; he presents to the world claims of a still higher order. The lovers of truth and virtue will admire much more than his literary endowments, that regard for religious duty, of which, under all circumstances and in all situations, he exhibited so eminent an example.

There are some philosophers, and of great attainments too in their particular departments of knowledge, whose views are so riveted to, I had almost said identified with, the objects of their research, that they cannot extend their vision beyond the little spot of earth which they inhabit. Dr. Williamson was not an associate of this class ; with all his inquiries into the physical constitution of this globe, like Newton and Rittenhouse he could elevate his views to the Great Agent that gave existence to our world, and sustains it in its connexions with the other parts of the universe.

To those who delight to dwell on themes like these, it will be gratifying to receive the expression of his own sentiments and feelings on this momentous subject. In a letter I possess, written during his last illness, while it displays the full possession of his mental faculties, and manifests the consciousness of his approaching dissolution, and his patient resignation to that event, he observes, "I have not any apprehension of a long confinement by sickness; men of my habits usually drop off quickly; therefore I count it my duty to be constantly in a state of preparation, whether I may be called off in the morning, at noon, or at midnight."

Upon another occasion, a short time before his decease, he thus concludes a letter to his nephew, which, I believe, proved one of his last communications.

"I have, as I believe, given you notice of every thing to which it is proper that you should attend; and having now, as I think, nearly finished my course through the wilderness of life, grant, O Lord! that when my feet shall touch the cold stream of the waters of Jordan, my eyes may be steadily fixed on the heavenly Canaan, so that I may say to death, 'where is thy sting?'"

Such was the man whose character and services we have this day endeavored to commemorate.—*Abridged from a Biographical Memoir delivered on the 1st of November, 1819, at the request of the New-York Historical Society, by David Hosack, M.D. LL.D. &c.*

WILSON, MATTHEW, D.D., was a native of Chester county, state of Pennsylvania. His education was directed by Dr. Francis Alison, one of the first, both in time and estimation, who introduced and patronised learning in the American world. With this great man Dr. Wilson's progress, both in the languages and the sciences, marked an extensive genius and a studious mind. It justified the most flattering expectations of his friends, and caused him to be respected and distinguished, even when he had persons to rival him in claims to literary advancement and honors, who have been long estimated as the most celebrated philosophers of America.

His own inclination, in concurrence with the advice of his friends, gave his studies a particular direction to the profession of divinity; and in this he was as eminently successful, as in his classical and philosophical studies. The Synod of New-York and Philadelphia, of which he

was a member for more than thirty-five years, and to which he was always an ornament and an honor, will bear a full and affectionate attestation to the virtues, the abilities and the usefulness of their deceased brother. Accurate in his inquiries, profound in his learning, and yet politely diffident of impressing his own sentiments on others, the liberality of his mind, and the utility of his assistance, were peculiarly manifested in that assembly, in difficult investigations of ecclesiastical history and polemic divinity. We need no further testimony of his usefulness and uncommon estimation in important Synodical transactions, than his being a principal member of the committee appointed to prepare the "new constitution of the Presbyterian church in the United States." As a Christian, his piety was fervent, uniform, enlightened, and full of good works. As a preacher he was learned, orthodox, solemn and instructive.

But his mind was too large in the objects it comprehended, and his benevolence too extensive in the modes of exercise it solicited, to be contented with the services he could render society in the objects embraced by only one profession. He studied medicine with the Rev. Dr. McDowell, who like his pupil was eminent at once as a divine, a physician and linguist. On settling as a clergyman he entered immediately on the practice of medicine, and derived the temporal support of his family almost entirely from the emoluments of that practice. Such were his activity and decision of character, however, that his medical practice did not prevent his discharging the duties of pastor in a manner highly acceptable and edifying to the people of his charge. For nearly four and twenty years the joint functions of minister of the Gospel and physician, were sustained and discharged by him with an ability and popularity which evinced that he was a man of extraordinary talents, attainments and energy. His ardent industry and the comprehensiveness of his mind reduced every obstacle, and embraced every object of knowledge. He wrote an able compend of medicine, which he called a "Therapeutic Alphabet." Commencing with the classification of Sauvages, it contained the diseases in alphabetical order, with definitions, symptoms, and method of cure. It was prepared for the press, used by himself, and transcribed by his students, but never published.

For a number of years previous to his death, in addition to all his other employments, he engaged in the direction and care of an academy. Here his communicative and amiable disposition was of infinite advantage. It attracted the love, secured the obedience, and allured the attentive application of his pupils. In connexion with uncommon learning we too often observe a conscious self-importance and a rigorous austerity, which discourage and depress the timid mind of the diffident pupil. Nothing but the entire reverse of this could adequately represent Dr. W's. character. He was invariably mild and affable, courteous and amiable.

In those three important employments Dr. W. labored with a constancy and an ardor, unequalled even by those who have ambition to excite them. His indeed was an ambition of the noblest kind. Its enlarged embrace included the whole family of mankind, its means were the unwearied efforts of active benevolence, its objects the happiness of his fellow creatures. Every day awakened him to the discharge of some additional interesting duties. He lived and labored for the public, not for himself. In his friendships he was sincere, cordial and constant. In his domestic connexions he was yet more amiable. As a husband, he was endeared by all the tender sensibilities and kind attentions, which can improve and complete matrimonial happiness. As a father, he was remarked by others, and loved by his children, for the constant and engaging discharge of all those paternal offices, which are generally seen to attract love and command respect; and as a master, he was exemplarily humane and indulgent, considering and treating those in his service as equals by nature, and only inferiors by fortune. He departed this life, March 31st, 1790, in Lewis, Delaware, aged 61 years.

Dr. Wilson was an ardent republican and of course a friend to the liberties of his country. He entered warmly into the measures adopted by the citizens of Philadelphia previous to the Revolution, to show their disapprobation of the arbitrary conduct of the British government towards the colonies. He wrote and spoke against the stamp act, and encouraged his parishioners to manufacture for themselves when the nonimportation agreement went into operation. When the vessels brought out the tea to Delaware river, upon which three pence per pound

was to be paid for the benefit of the East India company,\* he resolved to drink no more of that agreeable infusion; and obliged his wife and family to follow his example. In order, if possible, to reconcile the ladies of the country to the loss of the foreign article, he published a paper on the injurious enervating effects of China tea upon the human frame, and gave the names of seventeen vegetables which he proposed to substitute for it. This paper appeared first in the newspapers of Philadelphia, and afterwards in Atkin's American Magazine, No. 2, for February, 1775, of which work Thomas Paine was the editor. Dr. W. was severely mortified when he was obliged to suspend his resolve not to admit foreign tea into his house, in consequence of the visit of his wife's sister from Philadelphia, who hearing of the prohibition, and not relishing the idea of depriving herself of her usual evening's repast, brought down to the city some of the prohibited article, and insisted upon being permitted to use it. She asserted her claim to the character of a patriot, as she in fact was, but said she saw no reason for not drinking some of the old stock of tea which had paid no duty, and "tea she would drink." The good Doctor tried to persuade her to use some of the numerous substitutes which he named, but all to no purpose.

Dr. Wilson published several useful papers on medical and other subjects. Among these are the History of a Malignant Fever, which prevailed in Sussex county, Delaware, in the year 1774;† Observations on the Severity of the Cold during the Winter of 1779,'80;‡ Essay on the Diseases arising from the Air, attempting to show that most diseases are caused by miasmata in the air, with an enumeration of some of them, 1786.|| Dr. W. was a profound theologian, and an excellent Hebrew and classical scholar, and many of the pupils educated by him were distinguished for their attainments. The mere circumstance of its being known that a young man had been educated by him, served as a recommendation when he offered himself as a teacher. Several young men pursued their theological studies under his direction; and whether they could or

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\* It was not permitted to come up to Philadelphia. From the newspapers of the day it appears that the whole quantity of tea sent to America was 2,200 chests.

† Atkin's American Magazine, April, 1775.

‡ Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, vol. 3.

|| Carey's American Museum, vol. 4.

could not pay for their board was never a consideration with him. An application was never rejected, provided the pupil could be stowed away in the house.

He was "in wit a man, simplicity a child." He knew nothing of the tricks of traffic, and therefore often suffered when making a bargain or contract with a knowing one for a job. He believed every man to be as honest as himself, nor did the shameful impositions to which he was sometimes subjected teach him caution. The following instance of his refined, sublimated honesty actually occurred and occasioned much amusement among his friends. At the close of the American war a vessel was cast away near Lewes, and the parts of the cargo saved, as required by law, were sold by auction for the benefit of the concerned. The good Doctor attended and purchased a cask of aniseed. Upon opening it he found a large bottle marked "Oil of Rhodium." Alarmed at the discovery he ran to the auctioneer, and announced the fact, requesting him to send for the bottle and to sell it next day. The man of business told the Doctor that he would neither send for the bottle nor take it if sent to him, for, if instead of Oil of Rhodium he had found brick bats or stones, he should pay the price at which the cask was knocked off to him. The Doctor was greatly concerned at this explanation of the tricks of commerce, and was obliged to content himself with it. The cask and Oil of Rhodium were sent to Philadelphia, and sold for ten times the first cost.—*Dr. Miller.—Dr. Mease.*

WILSON, SAMUEL, M.D., was born at Charleston, South Carolina, January 26th, 1763. His parents were among the most respectable inhabitants of the city; and his father, the elder Robert Wilson, was a man of eminence in his profession, and justly acquired the benefits of successful practice. He was highly distinguished for his many virtues, and lived to a very advanced age, respected and beloved. As is common with youth trained in the paths of rectitude and guided by the best moral precepts, Dr. Samuel Wilson in his puerile days gave the best promise of realizing all that characterized him at mature age. He was early placed at the ordinary schools of the day, where he acquired the rudiments of learning; and it was in his native place that he subsequently received a classical education. He ranked as a respectable scholar. What talents he possessed were but partially unfolding, and he

is only spoken of as a youth of amiable and prepossessing manners.

Having arrived at that era of the political struggle of this country, when the oppression of the mother country had struck even from the hardest and coldest bosoms the fire of patriotism, young Wilson was among the first to feel the animating influence which love for his own soil had enkindled. He, in common with his fellow citizens, entered the ranks as a soldier, determined to support the dearest rights of an American. He marched under the banners of Marion, when scarcely he had numbered seventeen years, and manifested his determination to sacrifice his life in achieving the independence of his country.

His campaign was of short duration. The conflicts of war ended, and he returned to his books, to his friends, and to the enjoyment of political freedom. Under the direction of his father he now commenced his medical studies. The advantages of paternal instruction were not of an ordinary nature. The foundation was laid for permanent elevation in his profession, and for maintaining a respectable stand in the medical community. In 1784 he departed from home to complete his studies at the University of Edinburgh, where he was assiduous in his inquiries after medical knowledge. While prosecuting his favorite object, he gained the countenance, regard and counsel of such conspicuously eminent men as Cullen, Black, Duncan, Monro, Home, Hamilton and others; men who have left splendid memorials of genius and profound learning, which will long adorn the annals of medical literature. At Glasgow, after the usual term allotted for instruction, young Wilson obtained the honor of graduation in that college, and received the title of Doctor of Medicine. His love of science, his calm yet inquiring mind had produced already a discriminating judgment, and established his claims to preferment in his profession. His correct deportment and attractive manners won the esteem and love of his associates, and the approbation of those distinguished professors under whose auspices he was placed.

Immediately on Dr. Wilson's return to Charleston, he commenced his professional career, gaining confidence as he advanced. It was by his assiduity and attention to business, that he established himself firmly in the estimation of that enlightened physician, that accomplished



scholar, that close observer of nature's operations, Dr. Alexander Baron, senior, late of Charleston. A copartnership was formed between Drs. Baron and Wilson in 1791, which continued nineteen years, during which there was a reciprocity of sentiments and affection, not to be surpassed even among those allied by the strongest ties of consanguinity. On the death of Dr. Baron the lamented subject of the present notice delivered an Eulogy to his memory. On the dissolution of this connexion Dr. Wilson united with him his brother Dr. Robert Wilson, until his two sons, the present Drs. Isaac and Samuel W., presented their credentials as graduates. The latter association continued to the hour of his death. His declining health compelled him reluctantly to retire from business for some time before his decease.

He never seemed more happy and more himself, than when in the exercise of relief to his suffering fellow creatures. Here he was truly in his element. His medical attainments commanded confidence, and his affectionate manners inspired hope, even on the bed of death. Assailed at length by those bodily ills inseparable from this life, he saw the unerring approach of his own dissolution, and was prepared to meet the summons with composure. He died in April, 1827, as he lived, an exemplary religionist ; pious, yet not bigoted ; ardent, yet no enthusiast.

To his last hour he maintained the doctrines of christianity. He received them from his forefathers, he nursed them in his bosom, and he was a firm and steady supporter of his faith, an ornament and pillar of his church. His charity was in his mind and in his heart, condemning no one whose sectarian principles may have differed from his own. His soul soared above the grovelling influence of religious prejudice, and denounced all efforts made to control religious freedom. All men who acknowledged the power of a Supreme Being, and obeyed the divine commandments, were alike partakers of his love and friendship. He spurned the individual who could engender intolerant doctrines, believing that matters of conscience were between man and his Maker.

In his walks in private life Dr. Wilson was conspicuous among his associates for refined conversation and agreeable manners. He was proverbial for suavity and a pleasing expression, which won attention even on the most trivial occasions. As a practising physician his mind was

replete with useful information, skill and learning, and his eminent success is attributed to a sound understanding, an inquiring, calm and laborious investigation, and correct observation as to the seat and progress of diseases. He believed that improper and uncalled for medicines invariably hazarded the lives of his patients, and that it required as much judgment to know when not to give, as when to give medicine. His knowledge of the female constitution, and his accuracy in the treatment of the diseases of infants, were perhaps unrivalled. In distributing his medical services he knew no distinction between the rich and the poor, and he generously relieved by his purse no less than by medical aid, and religious consolation, the afflictions of humanity.

Dr. Wilson was the instructor of a very considerable number of young physicians, many of whom became eminently distinguished. One of this number was peculiarly indebted to him for benevolent assistance. From the reverse of fortune the young candidate was destitute of the means to complete his education at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. W. generously proffered his aid, and promptly furnished the adequate funds by which he obtained a medical degree, and on his return he was received by his patron as a father would have received a deserving child. His intercourse with his professional brethren was always disinterested, and his wonted liberality kept him on the best terms of friendship. He had no petty or sordid feelings of envy or jealousy ; he rejoiced at the success of others, and promoted rather than retarded the growing prosperity of his competitors. His own good conduct was the best support to his reputation, and, as he bore the rude assaults of others with contempt, the weapons raised against him fell harmless at his feet. His consultations were regulated by the utmost courtesy, and the deference which he paid to the opinions of others, inspired them with the most profound respect.

Dr. Wilson was a member of the most respectable societies in the city of Charleston. In some he held the first offices. The Medical Society, the South Carolina Society, and the St. Andrew's Society, have long enrolled his name ; of the latter he died one of the oldest members. As one of the fraternity of Free Masons he held a conspicuous rank, and filled high stations in the Grand Lodge of the state. The place of his interment is within the pre-





CASPAR WISTAR M.D.

Pendletons Lithog<sup>y</sup>

cinets of the wall which he was instrumental in erecting, and in the consecrated edifice in which he was for thirty years an elder and communicant.—*Eulogium by J. De La Motta, M.D. abridged.*

WISTAR, CASPAR, M.D. had the good fortune to descend from ancestors in whom he beheld examples worthy of imitation. His paternal grandfather, Caspar Wistar, emigrated from the dominions of the Elector Palatine of Germany, and arrived at Philadelphia in the year 1717. He was a man of strong intellect, and applied his life to useful purposes. By his exertions was established in New Jersey, about thirty miles from Philadelphia, a manufactory of glass, supposed to have been the first in North America. His maternal grandfather, Bartholomew Wyatt, emigrated from England with his wife, not long after William Penn commenced the settlement of Pennsylvania. He lived not far from Salem in New-Jersey, and was active and distinguished in the affairs of his day, both civil and religious. His father was remarked for firmness of character, and paid particular attention to the morals and religion of his children.

Wistar himself was born in Philadelphia, the 13th of September, 1761. As his parents and ancestors, on both sides, were of the religious Society of Friends, he was brought up in their principles, and received his classical education at a school established by them in this city. I have been able to discover nothing very uncommon in his juvenile character. In quickness of apprehension he was surpassed by several of his companions; but what he undertook he never failed to accomplish by perseverance. That he was a good scholar, may be inferred from the knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages which he was afterwards known to possess. Until the age of sixteen his faculties were expanding; but the peculiar cast of his genius had not been developed. About that period occurred an event which called forth the ruling passion, and decided his fate. This event was the battle of Germantown, in the year 1777. His religious principles kept him out of battle, but his humanity led him to seek the wounded soldier, and he was active in assisting those who were administering relief. His benevolent heart was affected by their sufferings; and so deeply was he struck with the happy effects of the medical art, that he deter-

mined to devote his life to a profession formed to alleviate the miseries of mankind.

Firm in his purpose, Wistar applied himself to the study of medicine under Dr. John Redman, a very respectable physician of this city, formerly President of the College of Physicians, with whom he remained upwards of three years. During the last year he attended also the practice of Dr. John Jones, an eminent surgeon, who had left New-York in consequence of its occupation by the British army. It was the fortune of Wistar to gain the esteem of all his preceptors; an infallible mark of his own good conduct. The friendship of two such men as Redman and Jones, was a valuable acquisition; and from that of Jones, in particular, very important consequences resulted. Having gone through the usual course of study, and attended the medical lectures, Wistar offered himself in the year 1782 as a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania. Previous to the obtaining of this honor, he underwent an examination in the presence of the trustees of the university. It is said that he acquitted himself on that occasion in an extraordinary manner; answering the questions proposed to him, with such uncommon promptness and precision, as excited the surprise, and commanded the admiration of all who heard him. There was a singularity in this examination of which I have been informed by a gentleman who was present. The Faculty of Medicine were not all of one theory,\* and each professor examined with an eye to his own system; of this Wistar was aware, and had the address to answer each to his complete satisfaction, in his own way. Of course the degree was conferred on him.

Instead of entering immediately into the practice of medicine, he determined to avail himself of the advantages to be found in the schools of London and Edinburgh, at that time the first in the world. In this he displayed his usual judgment. It has been remarked that, with few exceptions, those who have been great in the learned professions, have abstained from practice at an early age. The cause is obvious. The elements of science lie too deep to be attained without long and patient thought. The mind requires retirement and tranquillity, to exert its powers of reflection to their full extent. But these are

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\* They were divided into Boerhaavian and Cullenian.

incompatible with the bustle, the anxiety, the agitation of active life. There was another reason too, formerly of great weight, though not so now, for finishing a medical education in Europe. Our own schools were in their infancy, and he who had been initiated in others of so much greater celebrity, carried with him a splendor reflected from the masters under whom he had studied. This had appeared in Morgan, Shippen, Kuhn, and Rush, too plainly to be overlooked by the searching eyes of Wistar. Accordingly he went to England, in October, 1783.

The air of London was unfavorable to his health, which compelled him to make frequent excursions into the country. But no time was lost by these excursions. His investigating mind was busily employed in acquiring knowledge of various kinds ; and his familiar letters, during his abode in England, to his friends in America, gave promise of that devoted attachment to science, for which his character was afterwards distinguished.

Having remained a year in England, he repaired to Edinburgh, where he passed his time, not like many young men in frivolous or vicious amusements, but in study, in attending lectures, in cultivating the friendship of distinguished persons. To act a part like this, requires no small share of good sense and resolution. But to understand the merit of Wistar, it should be known that in consequence of his father's death, he was easy in his fortune, and uncontrolled master of his actions. Great is the danger to which youth is exposed in populous cities. To each is offered the choice of Hercules. The paths of pleasure and of virtue lie open before them. False steps are not easily retraced ; for the diverging paths grow wider and wider asunder, until they terminate in the opposite extremes of infamy and honor.

Always intent on improving his opportunities, he made a journey on foot, in October, 1785, in company with Charles Throgmorton, Esq. and Mr. Ellcock, of Dublin, through part of the Highlands of Scotland, and visited Glasgow, Inverary and Inverness. His character was now rising rapidly at Edinburgh. That he enjoyed the esteem of the great Cullen, appears by a letter dated January, 1786. For two successive years he was elected one of the Presidents of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh. He was elected also President of the society " for the further investigation of natural history." These honors, conferred

by a great, a learned, and a proud nation, on a youth, a stranger, one whose country had but just risen into existence, are the surest testimonies of uncommon merit. We contemplate them not only with pleasure, but with pride. Their lustre is reflected from the man to the country which gave him birth.

About the year 1785 he was received into the house of Doctor Charles Stewart, a most respectable physician of Edinburgh, with whom he lived during the remainder of the time that he spent in that city. Of this favor he was highly sensible. He always remembered it with gratitude, and spoke of it with pleasure.

In June, 1786, he took his degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh ; his Inaugural Dissertation, "*de Animo Demisso*," is dedicated to Dr. Franklin and Dr. Cullen ; the one at the head of philosophy in his own country, the other flourishing in Scotland in medical fame. Towards the end of the year 1786 he took leave of Edinburgh, leaving behind him a name long remembered. This is testified by his countrymen who visited that city many years after. His fame flew before him to his native city, where he arrived in January 1787, after an absence of more than three years.

He was soon appointed Physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary, a useful and charitable institution then recently established. In the same year he was elected a member of the College of Physicians, and of the American Philosophical Society. In 1788 to his other good fortune was added domestic happiness, by his marriage with his first wife, Isabella Marshall, daughter of Christopher Marshall of this city. In 1789 he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the College of Philadelphia. This appointment he did not accept without great hesitation. Philadelphia had then the misfortune to be divided between two rival schools ; the Faculty of Medicine of the College and that of the University of Pennsylvania. He saw and lamented the consequences of this division. It was his wish to unite, in one great institution, the talents of the city. But, finding that the period of union had not yet arrived, he accepted the professorship offered him by the College, in order to preserve an influence, to be exerted at the proper season, and in this purpose he was not disappointed ; for he had the satisfaction of contributing largely to the much desired union, which was afterwards effected.



In the memorable summer of 1793, when the Physicians were the forlorn hope which stood between the pestilence and the people, he had nearly lost his life : he did not escape the awful visitation, but was fortunate enough to recover from it. In the autumn of the same year he was chosen Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

The rival Faculties of Medicine being united in the University of Pennsylvania, Wistar was elected, in January 1792, adjunct Professor of anatomy, midwifery, and surgery, with the late Dr. Wm. Shippen, one of the fathers of the medical school. Surgery and midwifery were afterwards erected into several professorships ; Shippen and Wistar retained anatomy, and on the death of Shippen, in 1808, Wistar was placed, as sole Professor, in the anatomical chair.

It was here that the scene of his greatest excellence was exhibited. In many departments of science he was conspicuous, but here preëminent. Here he exerted all his genius and strained every faculty of his mind. His heart and soul were in the object. No pains, no money were spared to render the lecture complete ; and he succeeded ; for, in the opinion of able judges, he might well bear a comparison with the most celebrated Professors in existence. In language he was sufficiently fluent, and, when a little excited, even eloquent, and by happy allusions to agreeable objects he contrived to scatter flowers over a field, not naturally of an inviting aspect. But his great aim was to render his demonstrations perfectly intelligible, and this he always accomplished by dwelling upon his subject, until he perceived that it was clearly understood by his pupils. In the communication of his ideas he had a facility never attained but by great masters. Too much praise cannot be given him for the liberality with which he provided the necessary apparatus. His expenses in procuring every kind of drawing or model which could represent the various parts of the human body, were greater than can be conceived by those who have not been informed. The increase of his class keeping pace with the fame of the Professor, it was found impossible to demonstrate to several hundred students at once, the structure of all the minute organs. He had recourse, therefore, to models, which gave an exact representation of the small parts of the human structure on a magnified scale. This was not an original idea of Wistar ; but he extended this

mode of instruction so far beyond any thing which had been before practised, and its effects, under his lessons, were so luminous and happy, that we can scarce withhold from him the merit of invention.

He published a few years ago, a *System of Anatomy* adapted to the use of students, the character of which I shall give in words better than my own, obligingly communicated by a Professor of our Medical Faculty.\* “It is a model for an elementary work. The style is simple, plain, intelligible—the descriptions brief and accurate—the arrangement lucid, and the whole work altogether worthy of his talents. However numerous the writings of anatomists, I have no hesitation in declaring this by far the most easily understood, and by far the best fitted for the purposes intended.”

Anatomy has been so much studied both by the ancients and moderns, and so many excellent works have been published on the subject, that any discovery, at this time of day, was scarcely to be expected. Yet it is supposed to be without doubt, that Wistar was the first who observed and described the posterior portion of the ethmoid bone in its most perfect state, viz. with the triangular bones attached to it. Of this he has given an accurate description in the volume of our *Transactions* now in the press. On the subject of that discovery he received, a few days before his death, a letter from Professor Sæmmering, of the kingdom of Bavaria, one of the most celebrated anatomists in Europe, of which the following is an extract: “The neat specimen of the sphenoid and ethmoid bones, is an invaluable addition to my anatomical collection, having never seen them myself in such a perfect state. I shall now be very attentive to examine these processes of the ethmoid bone in children of two years of age, being fully persuaded Mr. Bertin had never met with them of such a considerable size, nor of such peculiar structure.”

In December, 1798, Wistar married the amiable lady who now laments his loss, Elizabeth Mifflin, niece of the late Governor Mifflin. Of his first marriage there is no issue. In his last he was blessed with many children, only three of whom remain.

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\* Dr. Dorsey, Professor of *Materia Medica*.

In the year 1809, knowing the prejudices that obstructed the progress of vaccination, he suggested the plan of a society for circulating the benefit of that noble discovery which has immortalized Jenner. And in this he had the pleasure of finding himself seconded by a number of public spirited gentlemen, who associated themselves for that useful purpose. So great has been their success, that by their means upwards of eleven thousand persons had been vaccinated in this city and liberties, and the district of Southwark, previous to their annual report in January last : nor is that all ; for, encouraged by their examples, the corporation have generously provided by law for the gratuitous vaccination of the poor in the city.

In May, 1810, he resigned his office of physician to the Hospital. In what estimation he was held by the managers, will best appear by their own resolution, entered on their minutes. "The conclusion of Dr. Wistar, to withdraw at the present time, was unexpected and very much regretted by the managers, who would have gladly embraced the opportunity of giving to a long-tried, experienced and faithful practitioner, a further proof of their confidence in his skill and abilities, by reelecting him to the office he has filled more than sixteen years successively with great reputation, if he had not prevented them by declining to serve any longer. Under these impressions, the managers reluctantly part with Dr. Wistar, being thankful for his past exertions to serve the institution, and for his kind offers to advise and assist, if there shall be any particular reason to require it, on any future occasion."

In July, 1794, he was appointed one of the censors of the College of Physicians, a very learned incorporated society, which office he retained to the time of his death.

Dr. Wistar's mind was eminently formed for a profession, in which precipitancy is danger, and mistake is death. No man ever performed his duty to his patients with more scrupulous integrity. He spared no pains in collecting all the symptoms from which the disease might be ascertained. His visits were long, his questions numerous and minute. He paused before he decided, but was seldom wrong ; and, his mind once satisfied, he was not easily moved from his purpose. In consultation with his brethren he was courteous and attentive ; never overbearing, but always stating with modest firmness the result of

his own reflections. His patients he never failed to attach to him. How indeed could it be otherwise, when to the sedulous attentions of a Physician were added the sympathy and anxiety of a friend? Though much given to hospitality, he never neglected the duties of his profession. Being eminent both in medicine and surgery, his practice soon became so extensive, that he was in the habit of walking ten miles daily. He would often rise from the convivial table to visit his patients, and request his friends to remain with his family until his return. Yet the pleasure of pleasing others seemed an antidote to fatigue, and enabled him, generally, to be the most animated of the company.

Having taken a view of his public and private services as a physician, let us now consider him as a man of general science and literature. His classical learning, gained at school, was much enlarged by subsequent reading. He became an excellent scholar. The Latin he understood so well, as occasionally to hold conversations in it. He acquired enough of the French language to converse without difficulty, and was well acquainted with the German. In the character of an accomplished physician is combined a variety of sciences. Anatomy was Wistar's fort, but he was well versed in Chemistry, Botany, Mineralogy, and History, in all its branches. As appertinent to his profession, he had reflected deeply on the human mind. Its connexion with the body, the manner of its being acted on by matter, and the cure of its maladies, he considered as desiderata in medicine. That these objects had engaged much of his thought, is evident. For, when a student at Edinburgh, I find that he proposed questions concerning them to Dr. Cullen; his Thesis, "*de Animo Demisso*," shows the same train of thinking, and in the last valedictory address to his pupils, he exhorts them to investigate the subject, and to make themselves familiar with the writings of Locke, Hartley, Priestley, and Reid.

As an author, he has not left much behind him. He sometimes wrote anonymous essays, which were published in the papers of the day; and others, which had his signature, appeared in the Transactions of the College of Physicians, and in the printed volumes of the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. Among the latter is a paper in which are detailed some very curious experiments on the evaporation of ice. This subject has

been since ably developed by others, but it is believed that Wistar was among the first who attracted to that object the attention of the public. His most considerable work is his system of Anatomy. He had completed the Biography of his friend and colleague, Dr. Shippen, and had it in contemplation to write a Memoir on the life of the late Professor Barton. He was industriously inquiring into the natural history of our western country, and had commenced a collection of subjects for the investigation of Comparative Anatomy, to which he was incited by his friend Correa da Serra, whose name is identified with science both in Europe and America. He had been accustomed to correspond with men of distinguished talents, both at home and abroad. Among these are found the names of Humboldt and Scemmering, in Germany ; Camper, in Holland ; Michaux, in France ; Sylvester, in Geneva ; Dr. Pole and Dr. Thomas C. Hope, in Great Britain ; and in the United States, of the late President Jefferson, Correa da Serra, Warren, and most others conspicuous in literature. In 1815 he was elected an honorary member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York, and the same honor was conferred on him by other literary institutions.

In the year 1795 he was elected Vice-President of the American Philosophical Society, and in 1815, on the resignation of Mr. Jefferson, he succeeded to the chair of his illustrious friend. I need not call to your recollection with what propriety, what decorum, what suavity of manners, he discharged the duties of this honorable station. Such was his courtesy, that he seemed anxious even to divest himself of that superiority, which the order of business rendered necessary. He was assiduous in attending committees. He was one of the first and most strenuous supporters of the Historical and Literary Committee, instituted by the society about two years ago. With what ardor did he excite them to industry in collecting, ere too late, the fleeting materials of American history ? The meetings of this committee he regularly attended. It was their custom, after the business of the evening was concluded, to enter into an unrestrained conversation on literary subjects. There, without intending it, our lamented friend would insensibly take the lead ; and so interesting were his anecdotes, and so just his remarks, that drawing close to the dying embers, we often forgot the lapse

of time, until warned by the unwelcome clock that we had entered on another day. To the business of the society in general he was always attentive, and his zeal for its interest could not be surpassed. Considering his conduct in every point of view, I may truly say that he gave universal satisfaction.

The understanding of Wistar was rather strong than brilliant. Truth was its object. His mind was patient of labor, curious in research, clear, although not rapid in perception, and sure in judgment. What is gained with toil is not easily lost. His information was remarkably accurate, and his tenacious memory held fast what it had once embraced. In youth he had given some time to poetry, and in maturer age he had not lost his taste for it. His favorite poets were Pope and Milton. Among those of more modern date, he preferred Cowper and Burns. But the inclination of his genius was decidedly for graver studies. Of time, and nothing else, he was avaricious. As he rode in a carriage he often read, and when confined by sickness he was fond of being read to by his family.

It remains to consider our deceased associate as a private citizen and a man. Public office he neither held nor sought, although enjoying the affection of him whose favor was fortune. This disinterested friendship does honor to both. To the liberty of his country he was firmly and warmly attached. The harmony in which he lived with friends of both parties, and the respect and affection which friends of both parties entertained for him, afford a memorable example, well worthy the serious reflection of those who suppose that political intolerance is essential to political integrity.

I turn with pleasure from the field of politics to objects of a more delightful nature ; the piety, the goodness, the philanthropy of our lamented friend.

It is difficult for a physician to be punctual in attendance on public worship. But if Wistar was not punctual, it was not because he was insensible of the duty, but because he was called by other duties to the assistance of his fellow mortals in another place. He therefore desired that his family should be regular in attendance at meeting, and he himself went when the situation of his patients permitted. In his devotion, as in every thing else, he was void of ostentation. But that his mind dwelt much on that important object, I can have no manner of doubt.

When a youth, at Edinburgh, his friend, Dr. Charles Stewart, made him a present of a neat edition of the Bible, in two small volumes. These he carefully preserved to the day of his death; and it was his custom, when he travelled, always to take one of them with him. This circumstance was well known to his children, the eldest of whom frequently accompanied him in his excursions, and could not fail to impress on their tender minds a veneration for the book which their father so highly prized.

To Wistar, philosophy was the handmaid of religion—she elevated his soul and warmed his affections.

After loving God with all our heart, the next great commandment is to love our neighbor as ourself. Were I asked to point out the most prominent feature in Wistar's character, I should answer, without hesitation, benevolence. It was a feeling which seems never to have forsaken him, beginning, as it ought, with his own family, and extending to the whole human race. Nor was it that useless sympathy which contents itself with its own sensations. His charity was active, his hand ever seconding the feelings of his heart.

On the death of Dr Rush, Wistar succeeded him as President of the Society for the Abolition of Slavery. The object of this society was congenial to his mind. Considering the situation of the southern states, the subject is delicate. But, certainly, the introduction of slavery into our country is an event deeply to be lamented, and every wise man must wish for its gradual abolition.

For the Indians of America he seems to have felt a particular kindness. He admired their eloquence, lamented their desolating wars, and earnestly sought for the means of meliorating their condition. Having once inoculated an Indian woman for the smallpox, her husband had fears for the event. Indeed there was some cause for fear, as the woman refused to submit to the proper regimen. The anxiety of the Doctor was extreme. She recovered; but until the danger was over, he declared, that on no occasion had he been more oppressed with the responsibility of his profession.

The gratitude of Wistar was remarkable. Services done, or even intended, he always remembered; but injuries he was ready to forget. In a letter written at Edinburgh he declared, that he had determined to forgive

every thing to a friend or near relation, and expressed his belief, that it would contribute greatly to happiness to extend forgiveness to every one. This sentiment gained strength with time, and at length ripened into a governing principle.

His health, during the few last years, was interrupted by several alarming attacks. He was subject to great irregularities of pulse, and there were strong symptoms of disorder in the chest. A collection of water was apprehended. But the fact was, that a small ossification had taken place between two of the semi-lunar valves of the aorta. About the 14th of January last, he was seized with a malignant fever attended with symptoms of typhus. Art proved unavailing, and he sunk under the disease, after an illness of eight days, on the 22d of January, 1818.—*From a Eulogy delivered before the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia, by the Hon. William Tilghman.*

The preceding facts, which are collected from a source, the authenticity of which cannot for a moment be questioned, display in a strong and simple manner the estimation in which Dr. Wistar was held by those who possessed the best means of knowing his whole character. There was a remarkable simplicity and openness in this distinguished individual. There was a directness in his actions, which left no one to hesitate as to the nature of his motives. There was too much of good, public and private, in what he did, to permit any man to seek for improper motives for his conduct. His country, his profession, the poor and the rich, his public station, the promotion of science, his religion, every relation which he felt to things around him, found a deep place in his heart; and he seemed to live to cherish and strengthen principles, the constant operation of which was to make him happy, useful and good.

The great and leading trait in Dr. Wistar's character was benevolence. He continued to practise a laborious profession, and among all classes, when its emoluments had lost their attraction. When bodily infirmity imperiously called on him to narrow the sphere of his labors, he lamented that his opportunities of active usefulness were diminished. He had ample resources in his own mind, but there was a joy in doing good which no retired or abstract occupation could supply. This benevolence was not only discoverable in his devotedness to his patients; it was



the same spirit, that made his house the welcome resort of the stranger and the friend ; and it was to give this spirit wider exercise, that he never ceased from study. Works of mere taste, however, and especially works of fiction, he rarely read. Life seemed to him too short to be wasted ; and knowledge which could not be applied to some useful purpose, seemed hardly worth acquiring.

Dr. Wistar was remarkable for the high veneration with which he regarded his profession. In the discharge of its practical duties, his ruling principle shone preëminently bright. Men lost to him then the artificial distinctions of society. Sufferers constituted but one class, one species. Individual misery was a claim which he never failed to recognise. It was not, however, in a conscientious discharge of its duties merely, that his profound respect for his profession was discoverable. He possessed an abstract sentiment of veneration for his favorite science. He loved it for its own sake. It was to him a dignified and noble science, with high purposes for its objects. A moral and intellectual character was thus diffused through its practical details ; and what with many men is mere routine, had with him an intimate union with mind. This led to a strong and habitual application of his powers to every collateral study, which might tend to enlighten the obscure parts of his profession, strengthen his regard for it, and render both it and himself more extensively useful.

We turn from these more general views, to consider some relations in which Dr. Wistar excelled. There are three for which he especially deserves to be mentioned ; as a companion, as a hospital surgeon, and as a public teacher. When we speak of Dr. Wistar as a companion, we speak of his colloquial powers and dispositions as they were manifested to his visitors. These can be perfectly understood only by those who have been acquainted with him. They owed much of their power to simple expression of countenance. When he spoke, his face became at once animated and open. His features received impressions readily from his mind ; and when he listened, one might perceive in his varying countenance the effect of the remark that was made, and gather the tone of his reply. There was, in short, something colloquial in the simple expressions of his countenance. His address was not elegant, and we are not disposed to call it awkward. It was the manner of a man whose mind was habitually absorbed,

and the occasional relaxations of which had not allowed him time for acquiring elegance. In him the purposes of conversation were answered. Something interesting might always be learned. He became early acquainted with useful discoveries in the sciences and the arts, and took a pleasure in communicating them. Yet he never engrossed conversation. He looked to his visitors for information and pleasure, and understood admirably well the art of eliciting from every mind, with which he came in contact, what might interest himself or others.

As a surgeon of the Hospital of Pennsylvania, Dr. Wistar aimed to accomplish two highly important objects, to cure disease, and convey instruction. What has been already considered as the leading trait in his character, was in this relation peculiarly conspicuous. It was a field in which a benevolent spirit might exert its widest and purest influences. Here were strangers, who might die, and be at once forgotten ; or recover, and hardly know the being whose deep interest and successful exertions had been among the means of their recovery. These unknown men, however, became at once intimately allied to Dr. Wistar. Their claims were laid in their distresses. The union became closer in proportion to the increase of suffering ; and no one, who has seen him at the bedside of one of these patients in whom signs of recovery at last began to appear, but could read in his animated, happy countenance, from how heavy a weight of anxiety and oppression his heart was recovering. This would not have been particularly noticed, for we know that sympathy under these circumstances is not uncommon. In Dr. Wistar, however, the degree in which it existed was unusual. It is, we think, but rarely found that habit does not enable men to resist the expression of feeling, whether of sorrow or joy. It certainly did not in him, and thus a medical student and hospital patient were the witnesses of feeling, as well as of skill, and felt a relation to him, on that account, which few men in similar situations are anxious to have established.

Dr. Wistar never lost an opportunity of imparting useful instruction to the hospital pupils. This was done by minute examinations of the patients, while the class was present, and by interesting remarks on individual cases. He insensibly led the student to habits of deliberate inquiry and reflection, by the happy illustration he offered of

the practice in himself. In his manner towards the patients of this admirable charity, he gave a most valuable lesson of conduct to the young. If a student saw any thing but misery in corporal distress, or acknowledged any other sentiment than a desire to relieve it, especially if he viewed it as ludicrous, or treated it as such, Dr. Wistar never failed to notice and correct, at the moment, so gross a misconception.

It remains to speak of Dr. Wistar as a public teacher. In this relation he appeared in all the fulness of his intellectual powers. He brought to the anatomical theatre his deep and various learning, his habitual feelings, and even something of his colloquial vivacity. Although he was strikingly fluent, and truly learned, still there was something in his eloquence peculiarly his own. Not that he was lofty in his manner and imposing by his voice, for he was neither. His was the eloquence of sentiment, rather than of manner; and his persuasiveness owed almost as much to his disposition, as to the great importance of the truths which he unfolded. The dignity which attached to him, had a common origin with his eloquence. It was not perceived at once. It was necessary to know something of his character and heart, as well as of the richness of his mind, in order to understand the elevation to which he had attained. In his public instructions Dr. Wistar surrendered himself entirely to his hearers, and freely, though unconsciously, displayed to them his intellectual peculiarities and his whole character. He commenced his lecture with a recapitulation of the preceding one. This was done by questions to the class. The effect of this on the student's mind, was to connect intimately the instruction already given, with that which he was about to receive. The lecturer then turned with unembarrassed readiness to the subject before him. An unrivalled fluency and simplicity attended him through every step of the demonstration, however complicated; and he knew, of all men we have ever heard, the best how to be interesting, and at the same time rigorously minute. A broad and clear light shone steadily around him. He seemed to have identified anatomy with his common thoughts; and the language in which he expressed himself on this subject, seemed like the appropriate expressions of his familiar conversation. Towards the close of the lecture, when the business of demonstration was done, he deserted for a while

the office of teaching forms, structures and arrangements, and entered the more intellectual department of his science, which teaches the uses or functions of organs. He entered this path as if it had not been a new one. The digression was so easy, so natural, that his hearers unreluctantly followed him. They felt that they were to be delighted and instructed by all that he would discover to them. In this part of his lecture his mind had its full play. Its great business was to collect and arrange what others had taught, and to interweave among his luminous generalizations the results of his own inquiries. In doing this, he gave a brilliancy to the experimental truths of physiology which made them apparent to every one. His felicities of expression made them attractive and even beautiful. It was a brilliancy, however, that did not dazzle, for it was a quality which owed its existence as much to the consciousness of the hearer, as to the clear conceptions and peculiar language of the professor.

We have thus attempted a delineation of the character of Dr. Wistar. There is something salutary in the contemplation of such a man, and such a mind. It is true, there is a height in so much excellence, to which we may never attain. But it is not too elevated to be seen. It is not a sudden steep, every step of which must be gained by labor, and which few only have surmounted. We rise by an ascent so gentle, and so much to love is on every side, that our strength is increased rather than exhausted. We are invited by such a mind to be its companion and friend; and are taught by it, that we may be both, if we have found our highest pleasure in honorable and important labors for the public, and in a beneficence which has its limits only in our power of doing good.—*W. C.—N. A. Rev.—Rees' Cyclopaedia.—Hosack's Eulogium.—Essays, Vol. I.*

WOODHOUSE, JAMES, M.D. was born in Philadelphia November 17th, 1770. His father was a bookseller and stationer, and an industrious, worthy citizen. His mother was an excellent woman, who discharged her duties in society with zeal and fidelity. Dr. Woodhouse's education was commenced at a private school in Philadelphia, and continued at the grammar school of the University of Pennsylvania. In due course of time he entered the university, and in 1787 received the honor of Bachelor of Arts. He soon after entered as a pupil with Dr. Rush, and in 1792 was graduated Doctor of Medicine.

The inaugural dissertation which he supported and defended was on the *Dyosperos Virginiana*, or Persimmon ; of this valuable native tree he gave the botanical and natural history ; and also detailed a variety of experiments which he made upon the expressed juice of the unripe fruit, the extreme astringency of which cannot be conceived of but by those who have bitten the plum. He treats of the various purposes to which it may be applied in the arts, and in diseases ; and of the modes of obtaining a spirit and beers, and of making bread from the fruit, after it is converted into a sweet nutritious and grateful substance by exposure to the frost when fully ripe.

In 1791 he determined to apply for the situation of Surgeon in the Army, then assembling under the command of the late General St. Clair, and destined to chastise the Indians on our frontiers, who had committed repeated murders upon the citizens of the United states ; and, upon the resignation of his fellow student, Dr. James Mease, who had been appointed Surgeon, but who changed his mind, he received the commission. The horrors of that campaign have been often given to the public. Luckily Dr. Woodhouse escaped the dangers of the dreadful defeat which the United States troops suffered on the 4th of November, 1791, having been ordered to accompany the first regiment which was sent after sixty militia deserters, four days before the battle, and to meet a convoy of provisions which was daily expected. He returned to Philadelphia after an absence of four months, and renewed his studies.

He early evinced a predilection for chemical studies, and to these he confined almost the whole of his attention after his graduation. He never attempted to practise medicine. A vacancy in the chemical chair having occurred by the death of Dr. Hutchinson in 1793, Dr. Woodhouse offered himself as a candidate. Dr. Priestley was chosen, but declined. Dr. Carson was then appointed, but died without giving a lecture ; and in the year 1795 Dr. Woodhouse was elected to the office. He went to work with zeal, and delivered a course of lectures the following winter with great applause ; and, as almost the whole of his time was devoted to the study of his favorite science, he added to the number, variety and brilliancy of his experiments.

His publications on chemical subjects were numerous, and may be found in those useful journals, the Medical

Repository of New-York, Coxe's Medical Museum of Philadelphia, and the American Philosophical Society's Transactions, vol. 4th. The first evinces by several comparative experiments, the superiority of the anthracite coal from the river Lehigh in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, over the bituminous coal of Virginia, for intensity and regularity of heat. In the spring of 1802 he made a visit to England and France for the purpose of improving himself in the branch he taught, and while in London published in Nicholson's Philosophical Journal, vol. 2d, "Experiments and Observations on the Vegetation of Plants," which show the common opinion of the amelioration of the atmosphere by vegetation in solar light, to be ill founded. This paper was the result of a series of laborious and ingenious experiments on the leaves of numerous plants and trees. He returned in time to commence his lectures the following season with his brethren of the Medical Faculty. In the year 1796 he was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society.

Besides his papers in the medical Journals above mentioned, he published the following: Observations on the Combination of Acids, Bitters, and Astringents, a pamphlet, 1793: The young Chemist's Pocket Companion, connected with a portable laboratory, for enabling any one to perform a variety of experiments, 12mo. 1797: Parkinson's Chemical Pocketbook, with an appendix containing the principal objections to the antiphlogistic theory of chemistry, and a plate of his economical laboratory, 12mo. 1802: Chaptal's Elements of Chemistry, 4th edition, with many notes and additions, 2 vols. 1807.

Dr. Woodhouse died of palsy, which terminated in apoplexy, June 4th, 1809. He left a choice collection of books on medicine and other subjects to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and a collection of minerals to the American Philosophical Society.

## NOTES.

(See Page 185, Vol. II.)

### No. I.

*Extract from a Letter of the Right Reverend Bishop White,  
Pennsylvania, to Dr. Hosack, New-York.*

DEAR SIR, *Philadelphia, October 14th, 1819.*

ON the receipt of your letter of the 12th, I called on my neighbor, Mr. Read, whose information on the subject of your inquiry is as follows :

Dr. Williamson had learned that the letters of Governor Hutchinson were deposited in an office, different from that in which they ought regularly to have been. There had been some business which had convinced him (Dr. W.) that, in the transactions of the former office, there was no great exactness. He repaired to it, and, not finding the principal within, he addressed himself to the chief clerk ; assuming the demeanor of official importance, he demanded the late letters of Governor Hutchinson ; noticing the office in which they ought properly to be placed. Mr. Read thinks it was that of the Secretary of State, but is not sure. The letters were delivered. Mr. Williamson carried them to a gentleman who would deliver them to Dr. Franklin, and the next day set off for Holland. Mr. Read remarked that his statement should be taken in connexion with the narrative to be found in the Life of Dr. Franklin.

I have no doubt of the correctness of the communication of Mr. Read. Independently of the character he has sustained through life, and to a great age, Dr. W. and he were born within twelve miles of each other, and were companions from their boyhood.

Very respectfully, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM WHITE.

*To Dr. D. Hosack.*

P. S. The Mr. Read mentioned in this letter, is brother to the late George Read, Esq. of New-Castle, Member of the First Congress, and since Senator for Delaware, under the Federal Government.

W. W.

## No II.

*Extract from a Letter of James Read, Esq. to Dr. Hosack.*

SIR,

*Philadelphia, October 26th, 1819.*

The enclosed contains all the additional information I have been able to collect, relative to the subject of your letter dated on the 20th instant.

As to the Hutchinson letters which I mentioned to Bishop White, I well remember Dr. Williamson telling me, some time after his return from Europe, that he was the person who had procured them; having gotten information as to the office in which they were, (I think he said it was a particular part of the Treasury,) he went there, and without hesitation said to a clerk, the only person then in the office, that he came for the last letters that had been received from Hutchinson and Oliver, from Boston; that the clerk, without asking a question, gave him the letters, which he put into his pocket and walked out. He was convinced the clerk supposed him to be an authorized person from some other public office; that he placed the letters in a proper situation to be conveyed to Dr. Franklin, then in London, and he departed immediately for Holland. This is, if not exactly, at least the substance of what the Doctor told me in a conversation we had on the then situation of our public affairs. The effects resulting from that transaction are generally known.

It will afford me much gratification, if any thing contained herein should be deemed useful to you in portraying the character of the estimable and truly respectable Dr. Williamson.

I am, with respect, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES READ.

*Dr. D. Hosack.*

## No. III.

*Extract from a Letter from the Honorable John Adams, LL.D.  
late President of the United States, to Dr. Hosack.*

SIR,

*Quincy, January 28th, 1820.*

Your Biographical Memoir of Dr. Williamson, which I have read with great interest and satisfaction, has excited so many reminiscences, as the French call them, that I know not where to begin, or where to end.

My first acquaintance with Dr. Williamson was in Boston, in 1773, when he made a strong impression upon me, and gave me a high opinion of the intelligence, as well as energy of his character. He gave us great comfort, at that time, by the representation he



gave us of the ardor of the people in the American cause, in the middle and southern states, especially in New-York and Philadelphia. I was afterwards more particularly acquainted with him, when he was a member of the House of Representatives, in Congress; when he communicated many things to me, particularly that he was descended from Sir William Wallace, the great Scottish hero, patriot and martyr. He informed me also that he was employed in writing the History of North Carolina, a work that I have long wished to see, but have never been so fortunate as to obtain.

I was one of the first persons to whom Mr. Cushing communicated the great bundle of letters of Hutchinson and Oliver, which had been transmitted to him, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, by Dr. Franklin, their agent in London. I was permitted to carry them with me upon a circuit of our Judicial Court, and to communicate them to the chosen few. They excited no surprise, excepting at the miracle of their acquisition. How that could have been performed nobody could conjecture; none doubted their authenticity, for the hand-writing was full proof: and, besides, all the leading men in opposition to the ministry, had long been fully convinced that the writers were guilty of such malignant representation, and that those representations had suggested to the ministry their nefarious projects. I doubt not the veracity of Dr. Williamson's account of the agency in procuring those letters, but I believe he has omitted one circumstance, to wit, that he was employed upon that occasion by Mr. Temple, afterwards Sir John Temple, who told me, in Holland, that he had communicated those letters to Dr. Franklin. Though I swear to you, said he, that I did not procure them in the manner represented. This I believe, and I believe further, that he did not deliver them with his own hand, into Dr. Franklin's, but employed a member of Parliament, very possibly Mr. Hartley, for that purpose; for Dr. Franklin declared publicly that he received them from a member of Parliament.

I am

Your obliged friend, and most

Humble servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

*To D. Hosack, M.D. LL.D.*

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To the foregoing statement it may be proper to add that Captain John Williamson, a surviving brother of the deceased, in a conversation which I held with him shortly after the death of Dr. Williamson, fully confirmed the above account of his brother's agency in procuring the letters of Hutchinson. He moreover declared that his information had been derived immediately from his brother.

D. H.

## LETTERS OF LINNÆUS.

(See Page 349, Vol. I.)

## No. I.

Mr. ADAM S. KUHN,

*Upsal, 2d February, 1762.*

Sir,

About three weeks ago your son, of great promise, and endowed with most engaging manners, arrived here; who after so long a voyage has reached this academy in safety and good health. He will receive from me the most disinterested advice; I will cherish him with paternal affection, and will at no time omit any thing that can contribute to his assistance or advancement, as long as he may choose to avail himself of my counsels.

At this academy he can learn the History and Diagnosis of Diseases, *Materia Medica* and Natural History, better and more thoroughly than perhaps in any other place. And if I should live for three years more, he will be a Doctor of Medicine, not only in name, but also in knowledge.

If he is to expend yearly in this place the same sum which Mr. Wrangel is to bring back from his country, he ought to obtain from him a written order, under his own hand, for taking up money; in this manner both will be benefited.

If you should meet Mr. Bartram, who wrote to me and sent me some plants, I beg you to make my respects to him, and tell him that amongst the plants, there was only one that was really new; which, with a high single stalk, with numerous setaceous leaves on the stalk, resembled in appearance the daffodil, and should be classed with the genus *Helonias*.

Remember me affectionately to Mr. Wrangel, to whom I am under great obligations for his letter and his undissembled friendship. And now you may live at ease as it respects your son; and remain assured that, as long as he is disposed to take my advice, he will be as safe with me as with his own father. Farewell, and may you live long and prosperously.

## No. II.

Mr. ADAM S. KUHN,

*Upsal, 24th February, 1763.*

Sir,

You recommended your son to my care, concerning whom I am now able to speak with more certainty. He lives in a house next door to me, so that I can daily enjoy his conversation, and inspect his morals and studies. His mind is always aspiring, and

his very amiable disposition gives general satisfaction ; so that he is beloved and esteemed by us all. He is unwearied in his studies in every branch of medicine, nor does he suffer a single hour to pass by unimproved. He long since began to taste the sweets of science. He daily and faithfully studies *Materia Medica* with me. He has learnt the symptomatic history of diseases in an accurate and solid manner. In Natural History and Botany he has made remarkable progress, such indeed as he will never repent ; so that, God willing, he will hereafter see his country with different eyes than when he left it. He has studied Anatomy and Physiology with other professors. Next summer, during the vacation, he can go to the country, to a farm of nine very near the city, where he may make daily progress in the studies he has commenced. I have been surprised that he has never been afflicted with homesickness ; the only thing that has caused him uneasiness, was not receiving any letters from the best of fathers.

You have ventured to send your beloved son to a foreign country ; should it be his fate to return to you, I will engage that you will never repent what you have done. In a word, he lives in the most temperate and correct manner. He observes good order in the management of his affairs ; nor have any of the allurements of youth, which are apt to ensnare young men, made any impression on him. Therefore I congratulate both you and myself on this your son ; and I declare most sacredly that I have never known any one more correct in deportment or superior in application. For the truth of this I pledge my honor.

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### No. III.

Mr. KUNN,

*Upsal, October 8th, 1764.*

My dear friend,

I this day received your letter, and rejoice exceedingly that the All Gracious God has conducted you in safety to England ; and I hope that He also will grant you a safe return to your friends. My whole family was extremely glad to learn that you were well, and desire to be affectionately remembered to you.

Wallerius, the Professor of Theology, Professor Dahlman, and the wife of Mr. Amnel, have died this summer.

I have heard a great deal of the excellent Mrs. Monson, whom I esteem and honor more than any other woman in the world ; I pray and beseech you to make my most devoted respects to her.

I lately received from Siberia a live *Cimicifuga*, a species of *actea*, which gave me infinite pleasure. I have many new genera from the East Indies, not yet described ; I could, and willingly would, consecrate one of them to the perpetual memory of the engaging Mrs. Monson ; but for that purpose I would wish to pro-

cure the most beautiful plant in her garden. If she has any of a new genus, and you will send it to me, dried, you will quickly find that I have fulfilled my intention.

A new edition of the genera has appeared, in which your genus is described; the Museum of the Queen's Society has also been published. I could wish to send you these two small works, if I knew to whom to entrust them.

I have not the smallest doubt that Dr. Solander has admirably described his scarce plants, as he was one of the most solid botanists amongst my pupils: I beg you to give my best respects to him.

I lament, beyond measure, the untimely end of Mr. Forscallens, and it was not in my power to refrain from tears. In his death the best interests of science have sustained a greater loss than I can bear to think of.

Continue to inform me of your movements; let me know what countries you visit, and what you meet with worthy of observation; and remain my steadfast friend, as I shall ever remain yours.

Farewell, continue to remember me.

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#### No. IV.

Mr. ADAM KUHN,  
My dear friend,

*Upsal, February 20th, 1767.*

I have learnt from your letter, that you are about to produce the first proof of your acquirements, in an essay on the Power and Efficacy of the Cold Bath on the Human Body; I therefore cannot refrain from heartily congratulating you on this little work, since I shall ever regard what occurs favorable and fortunately for you, in the same light as if it had happened to myself; for, from the period in which, having set sail from the shores of your favored Pennsylvania, you reached our city of Upsal, I have ever cherished you as a beloved son, for your correct and engaging deportment, in which none of the foreigners excelled you; for your unwearied ardor and application in cultivating the sciences, in which you were surpassed by no one; for your undisguised friendship, in which none could have equalled you. Nothing will be more ardently desired by me than that, being speedily restored to your friends, you may long prosperously flourish and collect the wonderful treasures of your country; where I may hope to see, with your eyes, a most beautiful region, abounding with as many rare mammalia, birds, amphibia, fishes, insects, &c., as perhaps any other country in the world. For I seem to myself to behold you wandering in your native woods, amongst liriodendrons, &c., interspersed with liquidambars, amongst which the ground is strewn and covered with helianthus, &c., while the humming birds, shaking their golden wings, sip the nectar of the chelone, and the different kinds of mocking birds join in a thou-

sand melodious notes, amongst hosts of winged songsters, from the tops of the trees. But a year would scarcely suffice to enumerate, much less to describe the enjoyments of your paradise. Finally, I beg that, when on your return your eyes are feasting on the delights of your flowers, you may still remember me.

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No. V.

Mr. ADAM KUHN,

*Upsal, 26th February, 1767.*

My dear friend,

I this day received your letter dated 12th of January, and observed with the greatest pleasure that you have been appointed Professor of Botany and Materia Medica in the College of Philadelphia; on which I most cordially congratulate you.\* I mentioned this circumstance to my wife and children, and they all participate the great joy which your good fortune has occasioned me.

I shall attend to your request respecting the societies as soon as you write to me from your own country.

Within these few days I have brought to a conclusion the first volume of the *Systema Naturæ*, which contains about ninety sheets; a second volume is now in the press, in which Mr. Hope will see his "*Hopea*," sent to me by Mr. Garden.

My *Clavis Medicinæ*, which was published upwards of a year ago, might possibly be of service to you in the *Materia Medica*; I wish I knew how it could reach you; it consists of two sheets only, containing thirty-two pages.

I am well acquainted with Mr. Walker from his writings, and have frequently quoted him when treating on the zoophytes. He is a most ingenious man, and I beg you to make my respects to him.

I have indeed seen the eyes of the cuttle-fish, and you will find that I have not denied their existence; but still I am not convinced that they are really eyes; perhaps some organ of sense, to us unknown.

I wrote, if I mistake not, that we last year celebrated the nuptials of Miss Gran Caissa. She now resides at Haggby; not in your house, but in the adjoining one. She married Andrew Ersen, the son of a farmer, at that place. At her wedding we drank to your health.

My whole family desires to be most affectionately remembered to you.

If you should meet the celebrated Hope, beg from him some American seeds for me; many of those formerly sent, through his kindness, germinated and sprouted.

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\* There must be some mistake here; Dr. Kuhn was appointed Professor of *Materia Medica* and Botany in January, 1768.

Mr. Bœckman, who succeeded to your place and chamber, and remained with me a year and a half, has already been appointed Professor of Natural History at Gottingen.

Mr. König, a former pupil of mine, returned last year from Iceland, with many new things in natural science.

When you next write, address your letter to the Royal Society of Sciences, Upsal; for I open all the letters myself, therefore there is no occasion for a cover.

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No. VI.

Mr. ADAM KUHN,

*Upsal, 20th November, 1772.*

My dear friend,

As a good opportunity offers of sending a letter to you by a young clergyman\* of ours who is going to your favored Pennsylvania, I cannot let it pass without writing, to pay my respects to you, and to recommend him to you as a truly learned man.

I am very much obliged to you for the Transactions of your Society,† and for having admitted me into the number of your members. This is evidently owing to your warm attachment to me, which I shall ever highly value.

Your brother now resides at Upsal. He has been with me but three times. He resembles you extremely, both in his appearance and engaging manners.‡

I send with this my second Mantissa, which perhaps you have not yet seen.

I wish you would give to the world a dissertation on the "Asteres" of your country, which are very numerous; and that you would mark accurately their specific characters, as this genus is extremely difficult to us Europeans.

On the arrival of this clergyman of ours, another may possibly come to us from you; in that case I pray and entreat you to send me some dried plants and some seeds; amongst which I most ardently wish for the seeds of the *Kuhnia*, which perished in our garden.

I have at present two pupils at the Cape of Good Hope, Messrs. Tunberg and Sparmann, who are assiduously engaged in collecting plants. Next year Tunberg will go to Japan, with the Dutch Legation.

My whole family unites in wishes for your welfare.

I am yours, whilst I live. Farewell.

*Eclectic Repository, Vol. VIII.*

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\* Dr. Nicholas Collin, the present pastor of the Swedish Church at Philadelphia.

† The American Philosophical Society.

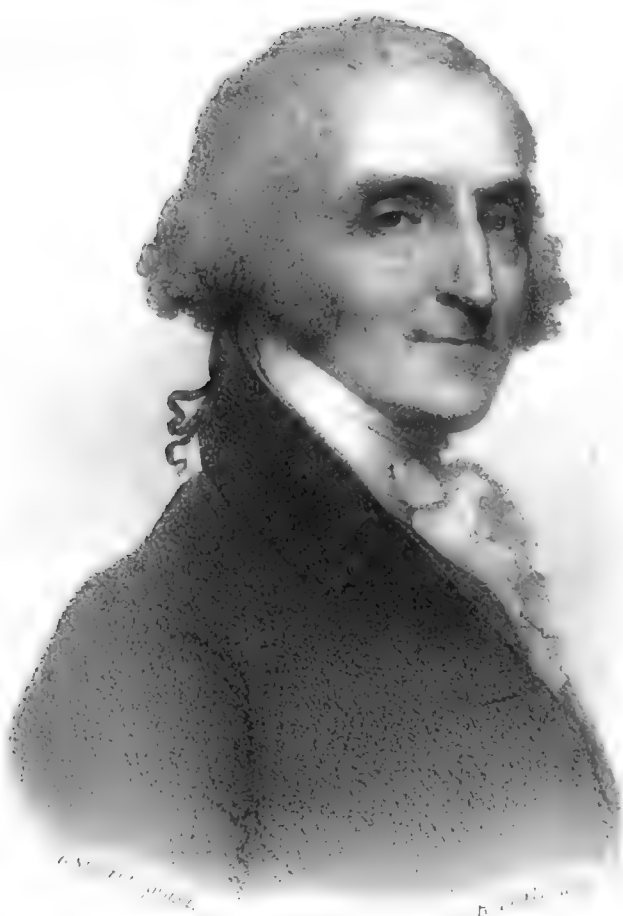
‡ Daniel Kuhn, appointed pastor of the Swedish Church at Ochristiana, near Wilmington, Delaware; who died at London, without returning to his native country.

## **APPENDIX.**

**THE following Memoirs were not received in season to be inserted in their proper place in the body of the work.**







SAM<sup>L</sup> DANFORTH M.D.

Fendleron, Lithography

## APPENDIX.

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DANFORTH, SAMUEL, M.D., was born in Cambridge, near Boston, in the year 1740. He was the son of Samuel Danforth, Probate Judge of the county of Middlesex, and was descended from a line of venerable ancestors, distinguished from the settlement of this country. For he of his forefathers who first came to New England, is said to have been "a gentleman of such estate and repute in the world, that it cost him a considerable sum to escape the knighthood which Charles I. imposed on all, of so much per annum." This distinguished person came to Boston with his son Samuel in 1634. The latter, being remarkable for his piety and learning at an early period, was educated to the ministry and settled in Roxbury, where he died in 1674. He stands second on the list of "Socii," the fellows, or governors of Harvard College. From the year 1643 to 1758, there appear before Dr. Danforth on the college catalogue, seven of his ancestors and relations; three of whom were clergymen, and some of the others held distinguished political stations. The name of the family of his mother was Symmes. He had one brother and one sister, both of whom died before him.

His early years were passed in Cambridge. He was educated at the college, where he evinced that independence and decision of character, for which he was remarkable in after life. He was graduated in 1758, and studied medicine with Dr. Rand, the elder, either in Boston or Charlestown. At that period he became acquainted with a German physician, who exerted some influence on his opinions, and of whose skill he often spoke with admiration. This was probably the elder Dr. Kast.

He commenced practice in Newport, Rhode-Island, a place at that time distinguished for its prosperity and its

literary character. Here he treated some difficult cases with a success that established his reputation, and formed him friendships which lasted during life. After a year or two, however, he resolved to return to Boston ; and, having married the daughter of Mr. Watts of Chelsea, established himself at the north part of the town.

The revolutionary troubles disturbed his professional pursuits, and he, like many of those descended from ancient families, became an active politician on the loyal side. In consequence of his taking this part, he was compelled by the war to break up his family. His wife and three children took refuge at her father's ; his brother went to England, where he remained till his death : while he himself continued in Boston, then in possession of the British army. After the evacuation of the town, he, with some other medical gentlemen, was treated with harshness. But the inhabitants, considering that they could not conveniently dispense with the services of their accustomed physicians, thought it wise to forget the difference of political opinions ; the physicians were set at liberty ; and a few years were sufficient to obliterate the recollection of the fact.

His family being reunited in Boston, he pursued the practice of his profession with success. His promptness, decision, but above all his reflecting habit of mind, gave him character and consequence. He increased his reputation by an ardent attention to the study of chemistry, which was then so little known in this country as to be considered an occult and somewhat mysterious science. In this favorite pursuit he was aided by a French gentleman, whom the war had brought to this country, and who, like himself being devotedly attached to chemistry and medicine, became his intimate friend. In company with this gentleman he pursued the study far enough to get a glimpse of some of the important facts which soon after broke out with such lustre in the discoveries of Lavoisier and his coadjutors. At a subsequent period, through his son, whom he had sent to Europe for improvement in the medical profession, he obtained the most complete chemical apparatus which had been seen in Boston. But, the calls of an imperious and engrossing profession preventing his pursuing this science with that exclusive ardor which belonged to him, he abandoned it wholly, and never resumed it.

After the death of his wife he was again twice married ; first to Margaret Billings, by whom he had one daughter, and afterwards to Martha Gray.

Having been an original member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, he was chosen President of that body in 1795, and continued to be so till 1798. He had long before this attained the highest reputation. In all difficult cases of a medical nature, his opinion was relied on as the utmost effort of human skill. To a knowledge of surgery he made no claim, and avoided its practice ; considering the medical art to afford sufficient scope for his capacious mind. The extent of his practice was limited only by his ability and disposition to attend to it, and he continued in full and constant occupation till he was nearly eighty years old, exhibiting none of the signs of a diminution of mental power, except a slight imperfection of memory, the effects of which his intellectual vigor enabled him to surmount.

After having seen his colleagues in business successively fall around him, and the disappearance of a great part even of the generation which came into practice after him, he was compelled by infirmity, about four years before his death, to resign his business and confine himself to his family. His latter days were not, however, without enjoyment ; for his physical functions continued in many respects active ; and his happiness in domestic society seemed to increase with the loss of that external pleasure he had so keenly experienced in his profession. Sometimes this retirement was agreeably interrupted by the visit of an old friend, and sometimes a former patient came to catch the last rays of that wisdom and experience which was gradually sinking into night.

Dr. Danforth was one of the most remarkable men this country has seen. He was tall in stature, thin, yet well formed and perfectly erect. His eye was penetrating, nose aquiline, chin very prominent, and his whole countenance exhibited a sagacity, which a stranger could not fail to notice. Educated in the old school, his manners were polished, but not formal, and his carriage attractive yet commanding. He was such a figure as the imagination would paint of a sagacious, powerful physician. When engaged in the consideration of a difficult case in practice, he seemed to shrink within himself, and his appearance, to an unacquainted observer, indicated doubt ; but, when the results of his reflections were expressed, his counte-

nance and person were most animated ; and he speedily cleared away the difficulties before him. Other practitioners, having exhausted the resources of the healing art, have often been surprised to see the fertility of his mind in the production of new plans of treatment.

His theory of disease he had formed for himself. It was simple, and his practice corresponded with it. He used few remedies, and those only whose effects were obvious and powerful. Calomel, opium, ipecacuanha and Peruvian bark were his favorite medicines ; and his external remedies were friction, vesication and the warm bath. Though considered one of the most successful practitioners, he rarely caused a patient to be bled. Probably for the last twenty years of his practice he did not propose the use of this remedy in a single instance : and he maintained that the abstraction of the vital fluid diminished the power of overcoming disease. Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to his theory or to some points of his practice, it may with justice be said that the medical art is indebted to him for essential improvements ; especially for dissipating the popular notion, which saw nothing but bilious complaints in all diseases of the digestive organs ; and substituting, in place of this error, a correct view of the nature and the treatment of the derangements of the part, he considered most important in the animal economy, the stomach. The simplicity of his views, the boldness of his treatment, and his aversion to nostrums and specifics, had a powerful influence on the practitioners with whom he consulted.

The confidence of his patients was unlimited, and their attachment without bounds. These sentiments were inspired not only by his superior talents, but by his manners, which to those he liked were most captivating and affectionate. Some persons accused him of severity. This disposition, however, presented itself only when he was excited to it by opposition to his opinions or disobedience to his orders. His conviction of the truth of his doctrines was so strong, and his confidence in his own practice so entire, that he was unable to bear opposition to the one, or disobedience to the other. When he found his advice slighted or his injunctions disobeyed, he was indeed unsparing of the offender ; for he truly said that such acts were as great an injury to the patient, as an injustice to the physician.

Having studied much and thought profoundly in the earlier part of his life, and having formed his opinions on grounds satisfactory to himself, in his later years he read but little. When he found a book that pleased him, it became a study. Every opinion was made the subject of reflection and conversation. His aversion to writing was very decided and uniform through his life. Had he committed to paper the observations he had made, and the reflections revolved in his powerful mind, his fame would have been as widely extended abroad as it was deeply rooted in his native place. The writer of this article has been informed that his friends frequently solicited him to allow some parts of his opinions and practice to be taken in writing. He at last assented ; and, after progress had been made in the work, he took occasion to read what had been written : having done this, approaching the fire, he exclaimed, " Absurd ! of what use is all this, without the mind to apply it ;" and deposited the paper in the flames.

Decision and the love of truth seem to have been the distinguishing traits of his character, not only as a medical practitioner, but in domestic life. He was simple in his taste, and averse to parade and pretension. In his friendships he was singularly firm and confiding ; and, after a severe domestic calamity had weakened his mind, his affections seemed, if possible, to gain new strength and deeper tenderness. In the latter part of his life, his views on the subject of religion were such as to afford great consolation to those who felt the deepest interest in his welfare.

His final illness was short. On the 13th of November he had a slight paralytic affection while in his parlor ; but was able to sit up, and recognised and conversed pleasantly with a medical gentleman whom he had not seen for some years. On the evening of that day he entered his chamber to leave it no more. Three days after the paralytic affection, finding himself faint he for the first time told his daughter, his only surviving child, that this illness would be a fatal one. A few hours after he sunk into a state of insensibility, and expired in a tranquil and almost imperceptible manner.

He died at the age of 88, on the 16th day of November, 1827. On the Sunday following the funeral solemnities of the Episcopal church were performed in his house by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner ; and his family tomb in the west-

ern angle of the cemetery in Common street, received the inanimate remains of him who had so often been the instrument of repelling the arrows of death from his fellow men.—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.

EUSTIS, WILLIAM, M.D. M.M.S.S. et LL.D., was the second son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Eustis, both of whom were respectable characters and who resided in Boston. He was born on the 10th of June, 1753. His mother superintended his early years, and the excellence of her disposition and pious instructions left upon his mind impressions of her worth, that never were effaced nor impaired through life. His early education was obtained at the grammar school in Boston under the celebrated Mr. John Lovell, and he became a favorite both of him and his usher. At the age of 14 he entered Harvard University, where he was distinguished as a good classical scholar. He took his Bachelor's degree with reputation at the annual commencement in 1772, on which occasion an honorable part was assigned him.

After his graduation at college, he commenced the study of medicine in Boston under Dr. Joseph Warren, the revolutionary patriot and martyr. His personal appearance, his polished manners and gentlemanly address, added to his many amiable feelings, and an intellect well cultivated, rendered him a favorite of his youthful friends and fellow students, and secured to him the strong and growing attachment of his instructor. At the commencement of the glorious struggle between the mother country and her colonies Mr. Eustis was a student with General Warren. On the 19th of April, 1775, the day of the battle of Lexington, an express arrived in Boston communicating the intelligence; on which occasion the General mounted his horse, called Mr. Eustis and directed him to take care of the patients in his absence, and departed for the scene of action. About one o'clock on the same day Dr. Eustis rode to Lexington and Concord, where he had an opportunity of dressing the wounds received by some of our militia from the fire of the British. When the American troops were collecting, and an army was forming, General Warren proposed to Dr. Eustis to receive the appointment of Surgeon to one of the Regiments, observing that he had seen more practice than most of the gentlemen from the country. He was accordingly appointed Surgeon of the Regiment of Artillery then at Cambridge. From thence he remov-



ed with the army to New-York, and soon after received the appointment of Hospital Surgeon. He was subsequently offered a commission in the line of the army as Lieutenant Colonel of Artillery, by General Knox, but he preferred the medical department, where he might improve his mind in the knowledge of his profession.

In 1777, and during most of the war, Dr. Eustis occupied as a hospital a spacious house and out buildings belonging to Colonel Robinson, a royalist who had joined the British, situated on the Hudson river opposite to West Point. In this hospital the writer of this sketch officiated for some time as surgeon's mate ; the sick and wounded from different quarters were sent here as to a place of safety and convenience. It was a part of this house that was made the head quarters of the traitor Arnold ; here and in the vicinity, the infamous act of treason was planned, and was about to be consummated had it not been providentially arrested in its progress. When Arnold suddenly absconded, his wife instantly retired to her chamber, and was seized with violent hysterical paroxysms. Dr. Eustis, on entering her chamber, found her frantic in the arms of one of Arnold's aids de camp and a female domestic, with dishevelled hair, wild countenance and deranged mind. General Washington arrived during this scene ; at a lucid interval she inquired if he was in the house, expressing a desire to see him ; Dr. Eustis, supposing she wished to disburthen her mind by revealing to him the secret of Arnold's absence, gave the information ; but, on the General's entering her chamber, her nerves appeared to be unequal to the struggle. She was instantly seized with another paroxysm, and his Excellency, on hearing her say it was not General Washington, retired from the unpleasant scene.

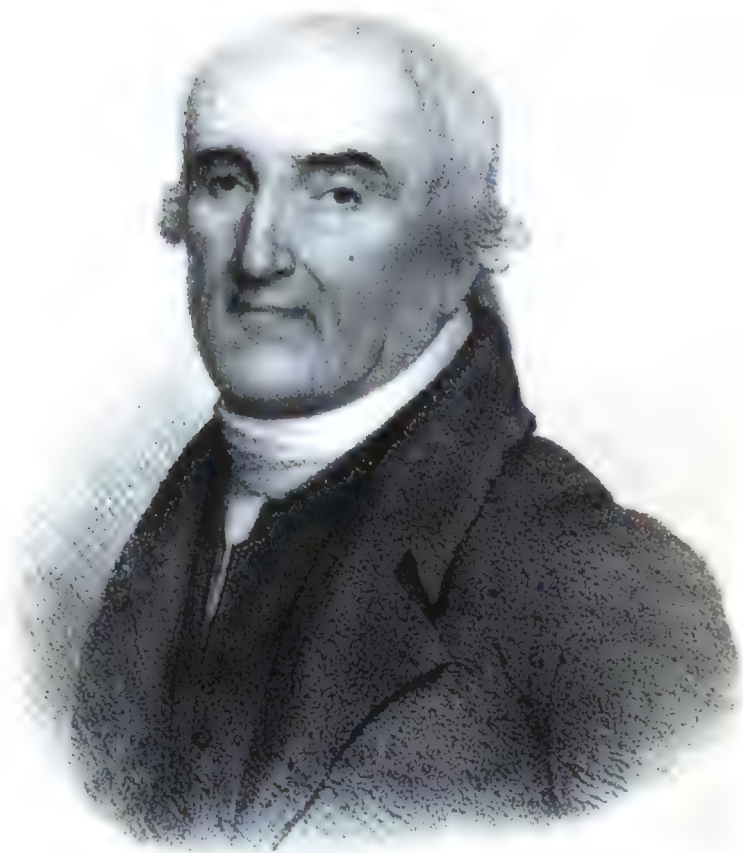
In all the duties pertaining to his office Dr. Eustis was found faithful, humane and indefatigable. His urbanity and social qualities led him to an acquaintance and friendly intercourse with those who sustained rank and respectability of character. When the number of the medical staff was considerably reduced by a new arrangement by order of congress, he was among those who were selected to remain in service ; and in March, 1783, he was present at the meeting of the officers at Newburgh, called by Washington in consequence of the excitement occasioned by the inflammatory anonymous letters.

At the termination of the revolutionary war Dr. Eustis commenced his professional avocations in the town of Boston. When, in 1787, troops were raised by our government for the purpose of defending our frontier territories from the invasion of the Indians, he received the appointment of Surgeon to the regiment raised in this state, calculating, it is believed, on the office of Surgeon General ; but as the object of the expedition was abandoned, and the regiment disbanded by government, he resumed his professional pursuits in Boston. In 1786 and 1787, when our Commonwealth was menaced with a formidable rebellion which produced great public embarrassment and alarm, Dr. Eustis manifested a patriotic spirit, volunteering his services in the expedition for the capture of Shattuck, one of the insurgent leaders, and rendering his assistance in the character of surgeon with the army commanded by General Lincoln, which quelled the rebellion.

In the year 1788 the subject of this article was chosen a member of the General Court for Boston, where he was on many committees, and took a conspicuous part in the debates during six or seven years in succession, pursuing still his professional calls and duties in town. He served also for two years at the Board of Council in this Commonwealth, during the administration of Governor Sullivan. In 1800 he was elected member of Congress for Suffolk district ; this afforded him opportunity of forming an intimacy with the ruling powers. He was soon designated as a zealous advocate for President Madison and his administration, applauding his political sentiments and measures. It was under this administration that, in 1809, he was appointed to the highly responsible office of Secretary of War, which he sustained until the surrender of General Hull's army, when he was induced to retire from the war department. But a new employment was in reserve for him. In 1815 he was appointed Ambassador to Holland, and on his return his legation met the approbation of the government. In 1821 Dr. Eustis was elected member of Congress for Norfolk district, which he continued to represent with ability for four successive sessions.

We next find him a candidate for the office of Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and, after the resignation of Governor Brooks, he succeeded to the chair of state. Such had been the magnanimity of his predecessor in office, such the dignity, wisdom and moderation





NATHANIEL FURBUSH M.D.

*AGED 85 JULY 1826*

with which the affairs of state had been conducted, that the asperity of party excitement was in a degree appeased, and its extinction almost sealed by the noble spirit of patriotism and public virtue. Governor Eustis, therefore, entered on the duties of chief magistrate under circumstances peculiarly auspicious to a happy administration.

He was for several years Vicepresident of this state's Society of Cincinnati, and a member, and for some time counsellor, of the Massachusetts Medical Society. The honor of LL.D. was conferred on him by Harvard University, and he received literary honors from other colleges.

He died after a short illness in Boston, during his attendance on the General Court in their session in February, 1825, in the 72d year of his age.

Dr. Eustis possessed a heart replete with humane and social feelings, and his hospitable and graceful manners rendered his house a happy resort to his friends and to strangers. Of his views on the important subject of religion we have no means of information, save the following paragraph found in the sermon preached on the occasion of his funeral by the Rev. Thomas Gray of Roxbury, from which a part of this sketch has been taken. "His mind was serious, and in repeated conversations with him upon the subject of religion generally within the last six years, he always treated it with the utmost solemnity." "I am a minute man," said he to me once, "I am a minute man, and feel this subject to be deeply important;" alluding to a supposed affection of the heart. Dr. Eustis married the daughter of Woodbury Langdon, Esq. of New-Hampshire, who survives him without issue.

FREEMAN, NATHANIEL, M.M.S. et S.H.S. was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers of the country. His ancestor Edmund Freeman, from whom he was the fifth in lineal descent, came from England; it is believed, first to Saugus. He was admitted, with ten associates, freeman, at a General Court at Plymouth, January 2d, 1637, and on the 3d of April following leave was granted to "these ten men of Saugus, on certain conditions, to choose a place sufficient for three score families to sit down upon." They chose and settled the town of Sandwich, and in 1651, the conditions having been performed, a deed of the town was executed by Governor Bradford to Edmund Freeman, who at the same time conveyed to his associates, the other

original proprietors. He brought with him to Sandwich two sons, John and Edmund, and a daughter Alice. He was one of the assistants of Governor Bradford from 1640 to 1646 inclusively. It is probable he died about the year 1668, as he is named that year on the records as Edmund Freeman Senior, and the next year there is a division of lands purchased of Edmund and John his sons. On the death of his wife he placed a very large stone on her grave, which he whimsically called, as in shape and appearance it resembled, a pillion; and brought another, which he called a saddle, and placed by its side, telling his sons, when he died, to bring him by her side, and place the saddle upon his grave; "and there," he added, "let us remain to the resurrection day." There sprang up between the graves, at the head and foot, two oaks, which grew in exact resemblance. The land passed into other hands, and one of the trees was long since cut down, but the other is still to be seen, with the saddle and pillion, about one mile west of the meeting house of the first Parish in Sandwich. Both his sons married the daughters of Governor Prince. Edmund married Rebecca in 1646, and remained in Sandwich; and from him all of the name in that town are descended. John removed to Eastham.

Edmund Freeman, son of the last named Edmund and great grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1655, and died May 18th, 1720. He had nine children, most of whom attained a good old age. His eldest son Edmund, the grandfather of Nathaniel, was born August 30th, 1683. He removed from Sandwich to Mansfield in Connecticut, where he died June 1st, 1766. Edmund, his son, was born in Sandwich, September 30th, 1711, was graduated at Harvard University in 1733, and married Martha Otis, daughter of Nathaniel Otis, whose wife was Abigail Russell, daughter of the Rev. Jonathan Russell, a pious and distinguished minister of his time in Barnstable. He taught a school in that part of Yarmouth then called Nobskusset, which now constitutes the North Parish in Dennis, where his son Nathaniel was born, being his third child, March 28th, 1741, O. S. Soon after this he removed to Mansfield, where he brought up a family of seven sons and two daughters, and died on his paternal estate February 15th, 1800. He was through life a practical farmer, and a pious man. Many of his sons have been distinguished in public life.

Nathaniel received a very limited education from a private instructor, and studied medicine under Dr. Cobb in Thompson, Connecticut, and afterwards resided a short time in Tolland. He married an orphan in Killingley, and removed to Sandwich, "the place of his fathers' sepulchres," when his oldest child was ten months old, which must be about the year 1765. There he recommenced the practice of his profession, and there he passed the remainder of his eventful life. He settled in Sandwich with the advice, and under the patronage of his maternal great uncle, the late distinguished Colonel James Otis, from whom he lived about eight miles distant. Under his auspices and direction, also, he went through a regular course of legal reading before the revolution.

On the disruption from the mother country he zealously espoused the patriotic cause, and in 1773 was on a committee of the town to consider the spirited resolutions of the town of Boston, and their report, drawn up by him, breathed a corresponding spirit. In this year he was also chosen a member, and thenceforward acted as chairman of the Committees of Correspondence and Safety, and throughout most of that stormy period was moderator of the town meetings. In September, 1774, a body of people assembled from the adjacent county of Plymouth and perhaps other counties, it is believed from a preconcerted plan of those "who rode in the whirlwind and directed the storm," and proceeded with reinforcements from the towns in the county, to stop the Court of Common Pleas which was about to be holden in Barnstable. It was desirable that this should be done without tumult or disorder. Dr. Freeman was selected as their president, and they quietly took possession of the court house. The multitude is said to have amounted to twelve hundred. The minutes of their proceedings from day to day show that it was no common rabble who had assembled, but high minded men about to resume abused delegated power. A communication passed between the presiding Justice, Colonel Otis, and the president of the assemblage, when the former with his associates and the Sheriff retired; and the courts sat no more in that county under the authority of George III. An action, like this in the onset, was a manifestation of moral courage seldom equalled, and may be said not to have been surpassed by any thing which transpired during the war.

Dr. Freeman was a member of the House of Representatives which convened on the 19th July, 1775, and "took up government" on the recommendation of the Continental and Provincial Congresses. He was on several very important committees; one of which was to provide suitable accommodations for General Washington, then at the head of the army at Cambridge. He was elected by this body in August Lieutenant Colonel, and in the succeeding February Colonel of the militia. He was also appointed in August Justice of the Peace and Quorum and Register of Probate, and in October a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, whose progress he had arrested a year before. These commissions, civil and military, were signed by James Otis and the other members of the Council, acting as Governor, and were under the great seal of the Province, and in the name of the Government and People of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. He was also superintendent for the county of Barnstable during the war; and several hundred recruits for the continental army were forwarded by him to Justin Ely, Esq., the commissioner at Springfield. In 1778, 79 and '80 he was again a member of the House of Representatives; and in 1779 went with Major Samuel Osgood to West-Point, to persuade the officers and men of the Massachusetts line, whose term was expiring, to continue in the service. He publicly addressed the officers, and prophetically assured them that, upon the successful termination of the war, a grateful country would appreciate their services, and call them to posts of honor in the civil administration of the government. He also marched at the head of his regiment, on the expedition to Rhode-Island.

On the adoption of the state constitution in 1780, he was recommissioned Judge of the Common Pleas, Register of Probate and Justice of the Peace and Quorum. He was also in the first "dedimus potestatem" to qualify civil officers, and was commissioned to take up and restrain persons dangerous to the state. In August, 1781, he was appointed Brigadier General in the militia, and afterwards offered his services to Governor Bowdoin to suppress the insurrection in 1786. He was honorably discharged from this office, October 31st, 1793. Governor Hancock consented to his discharge; but, before it was perfected, died, and it was granted by Samuel Adams, Lieutenant Governor. Hancock speaks of him as "an officer



whose patriotic services shone so conspicuously during a long and arduous revolution, which tried the souls of men in whatever station they were called to act by the voice of their country." Adams says "The spirit of liberty, under whose benevolent guide your conduct has been so eminently distinguished during our late conflict with despotism, is equally recognised in you by the present as by our lately departed Commander in Chief, and he expresses his confraternity with you in friendship and in the united love of our common country, whose government is established on the solid foundation of equal liberty and the rights of man."

The office of Judge of the Common Pleas he held until that court was superseded by the Circuit Court in 1811, a period of thirty-six years ; within which time he was appointed by Governor Sullivan Chief Justice, and also Chief Justice of the Court of Sessions. He held the office of Register of Probate until 1822, upwards of forty-seven years ; when he voluntarily resigned it into the hands of his friend and compatriot, the late Governor Brooks. He was early elected, on the nomination of Governor Brooks, a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society ; in 1792 a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society ; and in 1797 a member of the Humane Society. He was also elected a member of the Abolition Society at Providence, and of the American Antiquarian Society instituted at Worcester in 1812.

It appears by a memorandum and catalogue in his own hand writing, that he commenced the practice of medicine anew in 1789, with a determination to devote himself to it, and read all the approved works in the science then extant. He was distinguished in his very extensive practice both as a physician and surgeon ; and successfully performed many capital operations with no other guide than the knowledge he derived from his extensive reading. At the age of 63 he retired from the practice, though he was occasionally called to visit the sick, and took charge of patients to the last year of his life.

He was an advocate for the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and an unsuccessful candidate for a seat in the Massachusetts Convention which adopted it. The town sent delegates to oppose it. He supported the administrations of Washington and Adams, and was in favor of the reëlection of the latter ; but he did not join in the opposition to Jefferson after he was elected. In March, 1802, he deliv-

ered a charge to the grand jury which was published by their request, and is a repository of sound principles.

Dr. Freeman accumulated a very large library in medical and legal science, and theology. He gave much of his time to abstract speculations in theology and controversial divinity. He was one of the best extempore speakers of his day. Throughout the active and trying scenes of the revolution he used his influence for the preservation of order, and was ever on the side of humanity. His influence also was always strongly exerted in favor of religion and its institutions. Early in life he professedly espoused its cause, and connected himself with a Calvinistic Church ; but in his meridian became warmly interested in the views and sentiments of Dr. Priestly, and published for the use of the first Parish in Sandwich an edition of Dr. Enfield's forms of prayer with some others subjoined, a copy of which he sent to Dr. Enfield, who replied in a letter expressive of his gratification and respect. Afterwards he returned to the Calvinistic faith, in which belief he lived many years, and in which he died ; and he has left a large manuscript volume giving his views of its peculiar doctrines.

By two marriages he had twenty children, eighteen of whom lived to adult age. He lived sixty years in the house in which he died ; and in most of that time cultivated his garden with his own hands. He was a man of uncommon industry, application and perseverance. In his personal presence he was commanding ; his height was nearly six feet ; his eyes piercing, and his countenance strongly marked and interesting. He outlived most of his contemporaries, and was the oldest person, with one exception, within the limits of the town. He lived generously and independently. His hospitality was of the old school. He left little property, but died unembarrassed with debt, at the advanced age of eighty-six years and six months, on the 20th day of September, 1827, retaining a good degree of mental vigor and physical activity to within a few days of his death.

" Of no distemper, of no blast he died ;  
But fell like autumn fruit that mellow'd long :  
Ev'n wonder'd at, because it falls no sooner.  
Fate seem'd to wind him up for four score years ;  
Yet freshly ran he on six winters more,  
Till like a clock worn out with eating time,  
The wheels of weary life at last stood still."

GILBERT, DR. JAMES, was born in New-Haven, Connecticut, Oct. 25th, 1779. He was educated at Yale College, where he was graduated in 1800. His merits as a student while at college were attested by the honors conferred upon him by the Faculty, and by his being elected a member of the society of Phi Beta Kappa. During the last year of his college life he commenced the study of the medical profession, confining his attention chiefly to Chemistry and Botany. The former was more especially his favorite science, and was pursued by him with so much zeal, that most of his leisure hours this year were devoted to chemical experiments. Had the result of his investigations at this time been published, they would have given him a name among the improvers of modern chemistry.

The winter of 1801-2 he spent in Philadelphia, attending the lectures of Rush, Wistar, Physick and Woodhouse. By too intense application during the course of lectures, his health became so much impaired as to render it necessary for him to relinquish his plan of pursuing his studies at Philadelphia. Soon after this, by request of Dr. Conklin, he established himself in practice at Southold, Long Island, where he continued more than two years. At the end of this period, 1805, his zeal for improvement induced him to leave an extensive practice, to attend a course of lectures in New-York. Here, after the conclusion of the lectures, he was urgently solicited to settle, but declined on the grounds of his preferring a country life, with less prospect of honor and emolument. He returned to New-Haven, his native city, which thenceforward became the theatre of his professional life. In this and the adjacent towns he soon found an ample field for the exercise of his talents in the practice of medicine, surgery and obstetrics, which he cultivated with an ardor and industry rarely excelled.

At the end of eight years from his establishing himself in New-Haven, having accumulated a decent property, he was enabled to gratify a long cherished desire of visiting some of the celebrated colleges and hospitals of Europe. Accordingly, in the spring of 1814 he sailed for France, spent some time at the hospitals of Paris, and proceeded to London, where he spent the winter following in attending hospitals and lectures and in reading. Having now nothing to divert his attention from his favorite pursuit, the acquisition of science, he applied himself to it with

unwearied diligence. But, having been for years accustomed to the arduous labors of an extensive practice, he soon found that an entire change from the active life of the physician to that of the assiduous student, in conjunction with his abstemious mode of living, was by no means favorable to his health. Unwilling, however, to relinquish the object before him, he persevered until spring, when a severe pulmonic disease appeared to be rapidly undermining his naturally rugged constitution. By the advice of Sir Astley Cooper he now left London, and sailed for America, and, what was hardly expected even by himself, found his disease entirely removed by the voyage.

He reached home in the spring of 1815, and felt himself abundantly paid for all the suffering and expense of his transatlantic tour. After his return his practice constantly increased, especially his surgical practice, for which he always had a predilection. His health appeared perfectly restored, and for nearly three years after his return he was able to endure the fatigues and irregularities inseparable from the faithful discharge of his professional duties.

But his work was now drawing to a close. Early in October, 1817, he was confined several weeks with Catarrhal Fever, by which he was reduced very low. After recovering from this in some measure, he remained stationary for several weeks, when symptoms of phthisis again made their appearance. After declining some time and finding no relief from medication, as a last resort he resolved to attempt a voyage to a milder climate. Accordingly, he sailed from New-Haven in December, and arrived at Charleston, S. C. on the 8th of January, 1818. After a residence of about four weeks at the latter place, the season being unusually cold and rainy, and his health still failing, he concluded to sail for Havana. On the morning previous to his departure an abscess burst in his lungs, which circumstance almost dissuaded him from his purpose: but, the vessel being ready and the wind fair, he was induced to proceed. So flattering and deceptive is consumption, that even the skilful physician, who had seen and treated hundreds of cases of it in his day, sinks under its ravages, still cherishing hopes of recovery to the last. Dr. Gilbert died Feb. 11th, 1818, five days out from Charleston, aged 39.

The death of Dr. G. was justly considered as a public loss. Of him it may be emphatically said, he was cut off

in the midst of his usefulness. Possessing a vigorous and penetrating mind, he had acquired a fund of professional knowledge rarely equalled by one of his years. As a practitioner of medicine, he was indefatigable in investigating the causes and treatment of diseases ; as a scientific surgeon, he had few superiors in the United States ; as an operator he was neat, possessing a discerning eye and a steady hand. He was strongly attached to his profession, and probably no practitioner ever engaged more fully the confidence and the affections of his patients. During his professional life he was the private preceptor of a considerable number of pupils, who will long cherish his memory with filial gratitude.

Aside from his profession, he was an accomplished scholar, possessing a mind formed for philosophical research, and which allowed but few subjects to escape its investigation. His mind exhibited bold traits of an originality of genius, which does not hesitate at times to depart from the beaten track, or to throw off the trammels of long established usage, though at the risk of incurring censure, and of being thought eccentric. He was twice married, and had three children by his former wife.

The religious views of Dr. G. were those of a sincere believer in the truths of the Gospel, considering religion as a thing of the heart, and as consisting not merely in external forms and professions. He aimed to govern his conduct by the precepts of the Bible, and was extremely fond of reading and hearing it read during his confinement. Resting his hopes on the merits of the Redeemer, he regarded the termination of his earthly career with calmness and composure.

HUNT, EBENEZER, M.D. A.A.S. et M.M.S.S. was a native of Northampton, Massachusetts, being a lineal descendant of one of the oldest and most respectable families that established themselves on Connecticut River. Of the earliest period of his life little has been preserved. He was born in 1744, and in 1760 became a member of the college at Cambridge. He made himself remarkable at this age by a modesty of deportment, great vivacity, and at the same time that consciousness of talent which leads to determined exertions. Having finished his course at college with great credit to himself in 1764, he went to Springfield to pursue the study of medicine with Dr. Pyn-

cheon, who enjoyed at that time a very high and well merited reputation.

In 1768 Dr. Hunt began his professional career in Northampton. From this time he belonged entirely to the public. In the present county of Hampshire there is hardly an aged person to be found, who does not well remember the services which he rendered. For at that time there were few physicians in the section of the country where Dr. Hunt resided. His practice soon embraced a circle of eighteen or twenty miles round Northampton. His manners were singularly agreeable. He knew how to adapt himself to every class of society; and, while his feelings were so elevated and gentlemanly that he was fit to associate on equal terms with men of the greatest consideration, he could condescend to the lowest. In administering remedies he was cautious, but decided. His general principle was to abstain from using medicines if possible, and, especially in the case of children, to fortify the constitution. But if a case of difficulty presented, Dr. Hunt, though he proceeded with a circumspection which would lead a superficial observer to call him timid, was very bold and decided in his treatment, when his mind was once clear on the case.

He had a rare sagacity in discerning the nature of a disease, and its degree of severity. In all cases, whether of distress and anxiety, or of depression, he was well skilled in the most valuable art of inspiring a cheerful confidence. Hypochondria vanished before his good humor; and, in doubtful cases, desponding friends were animated to new efforts, and a hope was encouraged, when life was almost expiring from the despair of relief. In this way he not only was beneficent in healing diseases, but assuaged the sorrows of a sick room by a manner that administered comfort. When a family suffered bereavement, he was always present to solace grief, to relieve want, and to alleviate the pains of regret. And this his science and his knowledge of man enabled him to do, for he would calmly seek out the latent sources of affliction, and stop them, even without allowing his object to be perceived. For he was no proser; and never troubled a mourner with lectures on resignation. Thus it was, that his virtues as a man assisted him in his profession; and his genuine excellence, and pure and kind feelings, made him a more useful and successful physician.

In this way he came at last to enjoy unlimited confidence and general love. What Dr. Hunt said, no one called in question. What Dr. Hunt did, no man would consider wrong. But it must not be supposed that his career, so full of happiness from the good which he dispensed, resembled the practice of an affluent physician in a city. The district in which he practised was a wide one ; and in those days the roads were so bad as to admit of no rapid travelling except on horseback. Yet he was fearless and indefatigable. A horse always stood ready for him ; and summer or winter, day or night, near or far, on the mountains or across the river, it was the same to him, if a case of sickness required his presence. From these habits of active and selfdenying industry he derived a strong frame, perfect health, unclouded cheerfulness, and a constitution which enabled him to continue his laborious practice till his 70th year, and ordinary practice still longer.

In his own person he also at one period suffered most severely ; and one fact we must mention, in proof of his physical fortitude, and his unfailing serenity. A cancer was forming in his head, where he himself could not observe it. He considered it dangerous, and even apprehended that his end was near. In 1789 he went to Boston, thinking it might be for the last time. The Counsellors of the Massachusetts Medical Society were then in session. At the request of his brother-in-law General Cobb, Dr. Hunt went to them that they might examine the cancer. They decided that it might be eradicated. It was agreed that on the next day the operation should be performed. Accordingly in a full meeting Dr. Warren was selected as the operator. "We must bind his hands," said Dr. Warren. "No cable in Boston could hold them fast," rejoined Dr. Hunt ; and with an effort, that astonished the physicians themselves, he quietly laid his head on a pillow, and bade them begin. The ear was first nearly cut off, though afterwards successfully replaced ; then for thirteen minutes the operation continued, and every stroke of the knife, so near the auditory nerve, was like the report of a pistol. Dr. Hunt did not flinch in the least, though the sweat poured down his cheeks profusely. At length all was done ; and as he raised his stately form, his first words were, "Now, sir, give me a certificate." Dr. Warren did not understand him, and asked for what reason. "Why,"

continued Dr. Hunt, "that I was not cropped for making money." Dr. Warren laughed, and pleasantly rejoined, "I will give you none, for I hear that no physician in the west has made more money than you." The meeting was then adjourned, all agreeing that they had never seen a man of more firmness or of better humor.

We should like to dwell further on his professional character, which united so many rare and valuable qualities ; but we must pass to his merits as a man and a citizen. He was of nice feelings of honor and of warm affections ; benign and open hearted. His home was the abode of a liberal and unsparing hospitality. His morals were unblemished. He was a firm believer in christianity, and a professor. His religious views were orthodox ; his religious feelings tolerant and liberal. In intercourse with men he was frank and fearless. He oppressed no one, and he opened his mouth boldly against all intolerance and injustice. No honest man could be his enemy, and no man ever had cause to be hostile towards him. Whatever he engaged in, he undertook with all his heart.

He possessed an intimate acquaintance with human nature, and had a singular talent in discerning the characters of men, and understanding the principles of conduct and passions by which they were governed. This again increased his success as a physician, for he knew admirably well how to adapt his medicines to every constitution and habit. And in his general intercourse, if he wished to advance an important object, which required coöperation, he knew as well as any man what motives were to be touched. This talent, so often the foundation of great political power, he never perverted to an unworthy purpose. He united with it the most unsuspected sincerity and the strictest love of justice. He was habitually benevolent. To the poor and the fatherless he gave freely and silently. In all matters of public munificence he was usually the first invited to contribute, and always did so liberally and cheerfully. He kept no man waiting. He was prompt and punctual. We have spoken of his cheerful manners ; his cheerfulness was not artificial, though he was gay, and at times even playful. His character was marked by the deep lines of christian resignation. He was severely tried in the relations nearest and dearest to him ; but he never murmured against Providence ; and his present contentment was assured by his religious hopes.



Such an example made him necessarily a most useful citizen. But this was not all. He encouraged merit. In his own profession he was superior to jealousy. Having himself a large dispensary, he would furnish young physicians with all the medicines they needed, requiring no security, and favoring them, as far as lay in his power, in their efforts to establish themselves in respectable practice. One species of judicious liberality he particularly exercised. If young men needed small funds to establish themselves in business, Dr. Hunt was always ready to encourage them by lending. But he would at the same time fix precisely the day of payment, and give a few words of advice on the importance of punctuality. When the appointed day came, he always expected the discharge of the debt; by which means he made those who borrowed more industrious and frugal, and prevented the distress that would have resulted from an accumulation of interest. The foundation of many a young man's prosperity was laid in this way, and as much good was done by teaching the lesson of punctuality, as by assisting with the loan of money.

The business habits of Dr. Hunt were very correct. Once a year he would have a settlement with every creditor; but in collecting his dues he never made any man suffer. He practised medicine for more than fifty years, and never sued any person in the whole time for any debt incurred for medical attendance. Nor was he himself ever sued, nor did any cause in which he was concerned ever go to a jury.

His townsmen from time to time conferred on him those honors, which, though in themselves not very important, are yet valuable marks of confidence and respect on the part of immediate neighbors. He was often moderator in the townmeetings, after Major Hawley had retired from public concerns; and his influence in the town was great and of the right kind. He spoke in public fluently and to the purpose, but always concisely. His presence was so important as a physician, that for many years the town was unwilling to spare him even for a season. Yet afterwards he was in the Legislature of the state, was a member of the Senate five years in succession, and during that time was chosen Elector of President. He was long a member and counsellor of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and in 1798 was chosen its Vice President. At an early period he determined to hold no public trust after he should be

sixty years of age ; and he sacredly kept his resolution. Retaining his general health and cheerfulness to the last, he died on the 26th of December, 1820, aged 76.

WARREN, JOHN, M.D. A.A.S. et M.M.S.S. a distinguished physician in Boston, was born in Roxbury, a town adjoining Boston, on the 27th of July, 1753, and descended from ancestors who settled in Boston in the year 1720. After a preliminary school education in the town of his nativity he entered Harvard College, at the age of fourteen. Maintained there by his own efforts, he labored assiduously to avail himself of the advantages of the seminary. At this early period he displayed a taste for the study of anatomy, and took the lead in the formation of an association of students for the purpose of cultivating it. Having received the Bachelor's Degree in 1771, he entered as a medical pupil with his brother Dr. Joseph Warren, afterwards General Warren, and continued his studies, as was the custom of the time, for two years.

Boston being at that time abundantly supplied with able physicians, he settled in Salem, where, having gained the confidence of the excellent Dr. Holyoke, he was favored by him in the acquisition of business, and soon obtained a most extensive practice. The troubles of the time interrupted this course. On the 19th of April, 1775, the country being roused by the attack on the militia at Lexington, the Salem regiment was marched to the scene of action ; he accompanied it in the capacity of surgeon, and returned after the conclusion of the fight. Two of his brothers were present in this action. On the 17th of June, 1775, he was again called from Salem by the cannon of Bunker Hill and the flames of Charlestown. Knowing the intrepidity of his brother and the anxiety he felt that his countrymen should meet the first onset of a British force with spirit, he was perfectly aware that he would expose his life on every occasion. Travelling on foot, with arms in his hands, and lighted on his way by the continued conflagration of Charlestown, he inquired anxiously as he went whether his brother and instructor had been engaged in the action. Falling in with a sentry posted on some line, in his anxiety he attempted to pass him, and received a bayonet wound, of which he carried the scar through life. But this did not deter him from proceeding. His uneasiness was increased to an intense degree on ascertaining that his brother had been actually engaged ; but whether he

had escaped with life or not no one could say ; and such was the confusion of the period and the interruption of communication, that three days elapsed before he could be sure of the truth of the melancholy report that his brother had shed his life blood for the honor and defence of his country. Filled with distress and indignation, and excited by that ardent zeal which marked his character through life, he immediately offered his services as a private soldier in the ranks of the defenders of his country. His services were, however, to be employed in a more useful way. He received the charge of administering to those who had been wounded in the action of the 17th of June ; and a few days after, under the direction of General Washington, who had just joined the army, he was appointed to the post of Hospital Surgeon ;\* an office doubly important at that time, when the ranks were filled with volunteers from the most spirited and respectable families in the country. In this situation he continued during the siege of Boston.

This siege, important and honorable as it was to America, since the regular army of Great Britain was shut up by an undisciplined militia for nearly a year, was not fertile in military events. From the 19th of April, 1775, to the 17th of March, 1776, the invading army made no attempt on the country, excepting on the 17th of June, 1775 ; when they were so steadily opposed and suffered so great a loss, as to disable and discourage them from further efforts. The year was passed in erecting fortifications and in cannonading. In March, 1776, there was a prospect of a bloody and desperate operation. The Americans had taken possession of Dorchester Heights ; the British commander found it necessary to dislodge them, or quit Boston. He resolved on the former ; and a strong force was sent to the Castle for the purpose of storming the neighboring Heights

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\* His colleagues in this office were Samuel Adams, William Aspinwall, Isaac Foster and Lemuel Hayward.

It is stated in the historical sketch of Dr. Bartlett that " the inhabitants of this commonwealth who continued as surgeons in the hospitals and army during the war, were Isaac Foster, William Eustis, Samuel Adams, John Warren, David Townsend, John Hart, Joseph Fiske and Josiah Bartlett."

Of the eight last mentioned four were at the same time fellow pupils under Joseph Warren : Drs. Eustis, Adams, Townsend and John Warren.

The venerable Drs. Townsend of Boston, Fiske of Lexington, and Hart of Reading, survive at the time this is written, rejoicing in the prosperity of their country, and delighting in the recollection of the dark and doubtful time of their service in the army.

of Dorchester. At the same time, as is stated in a journal kept by the subject of this memoir, a sortie was to have been made over the Neck on the American force in Roxbury. General Washington, having discovered the intention of his antagonist, determined not to be found acting merely on the defensive ; and ordered a select body of four thousand men to be ready to pass Charles River in boats and land in Boston, as soon as the contemplated attacks had been begun by the British. In this party was placed Dr. Warren ; and we have heard him speak with animation of the hopes which filled the breasts of those who were destined for this attack. The Americans had been long in sight of their enemies without an opportunity of coming in contact with them. They were now tolerably well disciplined ; not discouraged by any defeat ; and overflowing with patriotic zeal. Had the British General pursued his plan, a triple action would have ensued, and a contest the most bloody which occurred during the war. The town of Boston would probably have been taken by the American force while the British were desperately storming the steep hills of Dorchester. The plan of the British General was disconcerted by a violent storm ; he afterwards abandoned it, and adopted the alternative of quitting the town. On the evacuation of Boston Dr. Warren was one of the detachment ordered to take possession, and had an opportunity of examining the place as it appeared after a year's occupation by the British army. Of its aspect and its fortifications he gives an interesting account in the journal alluded to.

After a short stay in Boston the American army moving to New-York, he accompanied it, and was in the disastrous action on Long Island. His professional talents were now called into full operation. He continued in constant service during the deplorable year of 1776, and saw the American army dwindle away to a few half naked, starving, discouraged soldiers, without losing any of his ardor for the cause of freedom, or his confidence in the ultimate success and independence of the country. The gloom of that time was suddenly, as by a flash of lightning, brightened by the brilliant and courageous attacks of Trenton and Princeton. At that time he narrowly escaped falling into the hands of the enemy. Between the actions of Trenton and Princeton, on the night before the last of these, Washington having crossed the Delaware was encountered

by Lord Cornwallis with a superior force. A rivulet separated the two armies. His lordship delayed for the night the attack, which he expected would enable him to destroy the American army, in the full confidence that they could not escape him. During a long midwinter night Washington withdrew his army from the front, and marching to Princeton, in the rear of his enemy, attacked them and gained a second victory. His movement was so unexpected and sudden, that the surgeons of the army, being lodged a little apart, received no notice of the event, till on rising the next morning they found that their army had disappeared, and that of the enemy remained in front of them. Mounting their horses, they galloped off without any distinct notion of the course they should pursue : but after a while, happily got information which enabled them to reach Princeton in time to attend to the wounded in the action which took place there. After two years' service in the army, during the most dangerous and discouraging part of the revolution, he was in the year 1777 removed to another department, and appointed superintending surgeon of the military hospitals in Boston. This post he occupied during the remainder of the war.

This honorable and important station presented him to the public as a proper candidate for the practice of surgery in Boston and its vicinity. He improved the advantage he thus possessed by a steady cultivation of anatomy, and, rising rapidly in public estimation, soon attained the rank of the most eminent surgical practitioner in Boston, and, it may be said, in New-England ; a rank he maintained nearly forty years. Soon after his establishment in Boston he married the daughter of Governor Collins, of Rhode-Island.

His anatomical pursuits becoming known to his friends in the medical profession, he was solicited by them to extend the benefit of his dissections, and to give a private course of demonstrations or lectures. Neither he nor his contemporaries had ever experienced the advantage of public instruction. In this respect the distinguished physicians who then held the practice of Boston, had the advantage of them. The former had been in Europe and enjoyed the instructions of the most able lecturers on medical science ; but Dr. Warren and those who studied the medical profession at the same time with him, were prevented from quitting home by the dangers which then

threatened their country. All the deficiencies were supplied by his talent and resolution. In the year 1780 he gave a course of dissections to his colleagues with great success. To them the opportunity was so novel and so desirable, that they attended his lectures with zeal; and none of them forgot the impressions they received. These lectures were given in the Military Hospital, which was situated in a pasture in the rear of the present Massachusetts General Hospital, at the corner of Milton and Spring streets. They were conducted with the greatest secrecy, on account of the popular prejudice against dissections. In the following year the lectures, given at the same place, were quite public, and many literary and scientific gentlemen of the town, and the students of Harvard College, were permitted to attend. In this season and at this place, Dr. Warren performed the amputation at the shoulder joint, with complete success. The third course of lectures was given in the year 1782 in the "Molineux house," situated on Beacon street, between Sumner and Bowdoin streets. The attendance of the senior class of Cambridge College upon these lectures led to the design of forming a medical school in connexion with the university. A professorship of anatomy was established for him, and he was requested by President Willard to furnish a sketch of a medical institution. In the year 1783 this seminary was organized, and the professors inducted into office with great ceremony.\* Its formation at this period was the more remarkable, from the country being scarcely disengaged from an oppressive war, which had reduced its wealth and its industry to a deplorable state.

Always retaining his sensibility to the interest of his country, he was deeply affected by the troubles which broke out in the state of Massachusetts soon after the peace. An expedition being set on foot among the gentlemen of Boston to attack a body of the insurgents at Groton in the county of Middlesex, he joined the party as a volunteer private. When the new federal constitution was proposed he examined its principles carefully, and afterwards took an active part in gaining it supporters. The citizens of his native state were about equally divided in opinion in regard to this important subject; and it was necessary that

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\* The professors were originally three in number; Dr. Warren was Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse of the Theory and Practice of Physic, and Dr. Aaron Dexter of Chemistry and Materia Medica.

all its friends should use their influence in its favor. He had a brother in the convention, who was decidedly opposed to the new constitution at first ; but by persevering and earnest argument he satisfied him and some other members of the convention, of the vast advantages to be derived from the federative system, and obtained their votes in its favor. He was equally successful with his father in law, the Governor of the state of Rhode-Island, who came to Boston for the purpose of satisfying himself on the subject, but with sentiments decidedly hostile to the proposed constitution. He returned home with opposite opinions, and exerted a most useful influence in his own state. At this time, as well as during the revolution and afterwards, his deep interest in the public good urged him to support the cause of truth by publications in the newspapers of the day.

In concert with some other medical gentlemen he established a smallpox hospital at Point Shirley, near Boston, in 1784 ; and when the smallpox spread in 1792, he inoculated more than fifteen hundred persons.

The yellow fever, after invading a number of the American cities, extended itself in Boston for the first time in 1798, though there were some suspicious cases two years before. Although the disease was formidable by its novelty, and still more so from the opinion, then universal, of its contagious quality, after sending his family into the country, he did not hesitate to attend all calls to this disease ; and, considering it most desirable that the morbid appearances should be ascertained by dissection, in company with Dr. Rand the second he examined the bodies of those who had died of it, with great accuracy, and published the results immediately. At a subsequent period he became fully satisfied from repeated opportunities of observing the epidemic, that it was not contagious. At the time when the doctrine of contagion was generally received, he showed his perfect devotion to the cause of his patients by inhaling their breath, in order to ascertain whether the mercurial action had begun.

As biography is not intended to gratify the feelings of friends, nor the curiosity of the public, but to afford instructive lessons, it is proper to mention an occurrence which took place about this period and had a great influence on his future life. By constant labor he had succeeded in obtaining a moderate estate, when, in the year 1796, a

medical gentleman, formerly a private student of his, begged him to become responsible for the payment for certain lands he had purchased in the District of Maine. The lands were of great extent, and the purchaser offered to deposit deeds of the whole property in his hands, together with those of other extensive estates, as security for the use of his name. He was induced to comply. The original purchaser failed to pay; he was himself, therefore, compelled to take the lands and pay the debts. The management of this property afterwards occupied a large share of his time, gave him infinite vexation, and terminated in absorbing a considerable part of his estate.

His early life had given him a love for the country and a strong taste for agriculture. The moment he acquired sufficient property he purchased a small farm, a mile from Boston, within view of his paternal house in Roxbury, and began to employ himself in the cultivation of fruit trees. His wishes on this subject enlarging with his means, he some time after obtained an estate at Jamaica Plains, large enough to give free scope for his plans of improvement. The laying out and planting of the land, and the growing and grafting of fruit trees, became his principal relaxation and delight. Almost every day in the warm season, after having gone through the routine of professional business, he drove a distance of four miles to this favorite spot, and passed the afternoon in planting and other labors, with his own hands; and then sitting a short time to consider the effect of the changes he was making, enjoy the anticipation of their benefit to society, and for a moment to contemplate the delightful scenery around, he resumed his vehicle and in a few minutes was enveloped in the hurry of professional business.

Having been a petitioner for the incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society in the year 1781, and an active member and most of the time an officer of that society till 1804, he was then elected president and continued to be so till his death. This situation gave him great opportunity to advance the condition of medical science, and bring forward those improvements for which this society has been eminently distinguished. The society and the medical school had been hitherto opposed to each other, and some severe collisions had taken place, much to the disadvantage of the profession. Exercising a predominant influence on both of these institutions, he employed this



influence to make them harmonize and coöperate in a system for the better instruction and gradual elevation of the profession. The fruits of this exertion are enjoyed by those now in the practice of medicine. About the same time he was chosen President of the Massachusetts Humane Society and of the Agricultural Society, offices which he held a few years and resigned to others.

The period allotted him for the enjoyment of public estimation was short. The severity of his labors had made deep inroads on a constitution naturally weak, and shaken by repeated diseases before he reached the middle age. When a young man he thought himself a subject for pulmonary disease. During his revolutionary campaigns he had a violent fever, and another in the year 1783, after he was established in Boston. The latter was so severe that the medical gentlemen who attended him did not expect him to survive it ; excepting one of them, Dr. Joseph Gardiner, an eminent practitioner of the time, who for want of written memorials is now known to few of our inhabitants : he said of him, " that young man is so determined to recover, that he will succeed in spite of his disease." During the earlier period of his lectures at Cambridge, he was more than once on the point of succumbing to the excessive efforts he made to carry them on. In the fulness of professional business he daily passed over Charlestown ferry to Cambridge, there not being a bridge at that time ; and sometimes, when impeded by ice, was compelled to take the route through Roxbury and Brookline to Cambridge, and to return on the same morning, after himself performing the dissections and giving a lecture sometimes three hours long. Twice he offered to resign his professorship, but was prevailed on to retain it.

In the yellow fever of 1798, though indisposed great part of the time, he attended an incredible number of patients through the continuance of the epidemic. Besides some permanent complaints, he was frequently afflicted with the sick head-ache, accompanied in its incipient stage with great depression of spirits. This continued to affect him till within three years of his death, when it entirely left him ; but soon after its disappearance he was suddenly seized with a more alarming affection. While demonstrating a brain which had been immersed in alcohol and muriatic acid, and which he held and handled for a long time in a very cold state, he had a paralytic affection of the arm ;

and was for some time unable to use it. From this he recovered in a great measure, but not wholly. He was also constantly harassed by a pain in the chest and side, which often attacked him suddenly in the night, so severely that, after taking considerable doses of opium without relief, he rose in bed, bled himself and became easier. This affection proceeded from an organic disease of the heart, of long standing. It was subsequently found to arise from ossification of the aorta exactly at that part which receives the impetus of the blood as it gushes from the left ventricle ; and it is presumable that this was brought on by that state of hurry and anxiety in which he constantly lived, and which would necessarily excite the action of the heart in an inordinate degree. Yet he had the opinion that it was the perpetual movement of body and mind that preserved his life longer than could have been expected.

The personal appearance of Dr. Warren was most prepossessing. He was of about middling stature and well formed : his deportment was agreeable and his manners, formed in a military school and polished by intercourse with the officers of the French army, were those of an accomplished gentleman. An elevated forehead, black eyes, aquiline nose, and hair turned up from the forehead, gave an air of reflection and dignity which became a person of his profession and character.

Temperance was as agreeable to his wishes as it was necessary to his health. He rose and breakfasted early ; afterwards did business at home, either professional or promiscuous, for about two hours, rarely leaving home till nine in the morning in summer, and ten in the winter. He dined at two ; ate heartily, but drank no wine and usually nothing but water, for wine and the stronger stimulant drinks were poisonous to him through life. The afternoon and part of the evening were passed like the morning, in visiting patients ; and the termination of the evening in writing, or in consultation of such works as were necessary to the labors of the time, or in performing the duties of the many societies with which he had become connected by his active and beneficent disposition.

His visits to patients, through the greater part of his life, were made on horseback ; a mode of conveyance which he adopted as the most expeditious. In visits to the country he took a chair or chaise ; but never a carriage of four wheels, unless indisposed or on a journey : the con-

The statement of this kind of vehicle was irksome. He wished always to move with the greatest possible rapidity, because the time passed in transportation was in a great measure lost. This habit subjected him to accidents innumerable and sometimes extraordinary ; yet not attended in any instance with serious consequences.

The minuteness of some of the details here introduced may appear trivial. It is, however, in such details that men differ from each other, and one generation from the next. For these reasons it may not be superfluous to speak of the method of practising at that time. Dr.

Warren made his visits very short. He wasted no time in conversation, but immediately applied his mind to the case, and succeeded in possessing himself of it in a few minutes in such a manner as perfectly to satisfy the patient and his friends ; so that, though they often complained that his visits were short and wished they could have more of his company, they were generally and strongly attached to him. This is not, however, to be attributed solely to their confidence in his skill, but to the warm and affectionate manner which was with him constitutional. During the greater part of his professional career it was not the custom to write prescriptions. The physician carried in his pocket a number of the most important articles, and distributed them on the spot. Such as were not at hand were sent for afterwards to his house, and prepared and issued by pupils. About the year 1806 the Association of Boston Physicians reformed their fee table, and agreed to abandon the distribution of medicines, the business of the dentist, and some minor professional duties.

In surgery his preëminence was unrivalled, during the greater part of his career. The soundness of his judgment saved him from erroneous conclusions, in a practice more within the cognizance of the public than that of medicine. It is known of a great foreign surgeon of the present age, that, after a life of activity, usefulness and skill, he committed a capital error in advising an operation of lithotomy ; on the performance of which no calculus was discovered. In consequence of his mistake he became insane, and after a life employed in the public service came to a most miserable death. From such a misfortune Providence in His goodness preserved the subject of this sketch. Although compelled to trust to his own resources, and for the most part destitute of any aid from consultation in this division of

his duties, his success was uniform, as far as the nature of the diseases he treated would allow. Hence he was resorted to from all parts of New-England, for surgical advice and operation.

His manner of operating was perfectly cool, composed and decided. Though sympathizing in the sufferings he was called on to inflict, he did not allow that sympathy to influence him, to hurry one step of his operation, or to omit any detail which could contribute to its success. Before its conclusion he always satisfied himself and those about him that every thing had been done which ought to be done, and that no relic of disease had been suffered to escape his vigilance. At a very early period, and long before it was practised on the continent of Europe, he introduced the healing of wounds by the first intention; thus shortening prodigiously the cure and the sufferings connected with it. Among other difficulties he had to surmount, was the want of an individual to whom he could resort for making, improving and repairing surgical instruments. No such person existed in Boston, during the principal part of his time; and he was compelled to find a substitute in some itinerant razorgrinder, or in the labors of his pupils or of his own hands.

The preparation of a course of lectures on anatomy, without books, without an instructor and without a model, is another instance of the energy of his character. As was before stated, he began to dissect at an early period; pursued his labors in the army; advanced them in his hospital; and thus, without any guide but his knife, and without any teacher but the body before him, made up his first course of lectures. Afterwards, the confluence of French surgeons to this country opened to him a new field of improvement. He determined to acquire the French language in order to study anatomy. The Latin and Greek languages he had well learned at Cambridge, together with something of the Hebrew; but of French he was wholly ignorant. By dint of study he became acquainted with it, and thus got access to the libraries of his friends in the French army. The interest which the French took in promoting improvement among the Americans, ought never to be forgotten. Without any assumption of the air of superior knowledge, they contrived to introduce many important improvements in the science of our young and ignorant country. The

books they brought with them were disposed of most liberally. Among those acquired by Dr. Warren on his favorite subject, was the *Anatomy of Sabatier*; at that time and long after, the best system in print. He studied this book till he was thoroughly possessed of all it contained. His lectures now assumed a more regular and elegant form. He introduced various modes of demonstration, which were original and strongly impressive; and contrived to make his short course so instructive, that few persons could avoid getting a knowledge of all the important organs: for he was not satisfied to quit a subject till he had shown it in all possible lights. He never wrote out a course of lectures; though he seems to have made a beginning, but afterwards abandoned this plan, from its being found unnecessary. For the most part he used no notes in lecturing, and often lectured without preparation; a practice which sometimes involved repetition, though not in a tiresome degree. As a speaker, his eloquence was preëminent, and its features were in conformity with his general character. There was nothing about it artificial or contrived for display. He was wrapt up in his subject and labored effectually to convey the vivid impressions on his own mind to those of his hearers. "His voice was most harmoniously sonorous, his utterance distinct and full, his language perspicuous and well chosen. But its more peculiar charms were derived from the animation of delivery, from the interest he displayed in the subject of his discourse, and from his solicitude that every auditor should be satisfied both of his demonstrations and explanations."

Situated as he was, it seems surprising that he could find time for cultivating any branch of literature. In the year 1783 he was called to deliver the first oration on the 4th of July, the anniversary of the declaration of independence; an anniversary which has been annually celebrated in Boston in the same manner, from that day to this. In the oration he gave abundant proof of extensive historical reading, and a degree of thought on political affairs, which did great credit to his sagacity, as well as knowledge. At different periods he delivered other public orations and addresses: one before the Humane Society of Massachusetts, an Eulogium on the Hon. Thomas Russell, President of that society, a Public Address to the Masonic Lodges, of which he was Grand Master, and a Dis-

sertation before the Massachusetts Medical Society, on the use of Mercury in Febrile Diseases. He produced some valuable articles for the Communications of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the New-England Journal of Medicine and Surgery, and the Memoirs of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

In the character of Dr. Warren the most distinguishing feature was disinterestedness, or the predominance of the benevolent principles over the selfish. Many of the most active members of society are occupied exclusively with their own interests. All their views and exertions begin and terminate in self. Such men often attain to the highest distinctions. But the world has little reason to rejoice in their elevation. They bestow on it no benefits, but such as are essential to promote their own progress. There is another class, whose feelings are more alive to the sufferings of their fellow beings ; upon whose generous dispositions the afflictions of others make a deeper impression than their own cares. They are readily excited to exertions, the object of which is to improve mankind. They may be called enthusiastic, perhaps, but their enthusiasm, being controlled by a sound judgment and accurate observation, produces effects the most beneficial. It is by such men that those changes in the affairs of men have been brought about, which are felt as beneficial to humanity, and the influence of which remains when those who produced them are forgotten. They enter not hastily on their plans. But, having satisfied themselves that an object is good, and worthy of their exertions, they are not deterred by an apparent impossibility of effecting it. They venture deliberately to encounter those difficulties they know they must contend with. The same susceptibility indeed that incites them to action, usually renders the opposition they meet with more harassing. They feel with acuteness shocks that would make little impression on men of colder blood, or more selfish dispositions. But they persevere in their purposes, for they know that no pain can be greater than the fear of being wanting to what their sense of duty requires. We have a brilliant example of this class of minds in those who effected the abolition of the slave trade ; and many of the actors in our revolution were of a similar character.

Among such minds is to be placed that of Dr. Warren. The most powerful motives of his actions through life ap-

peared to arise from the benevolence of his disposition, and the warmth of his feelings. Selfish considerations had no power to bend him from the course which the fervor of his spirit prompted. An instance has been given in the earnestness with which, on learning the agitating events of June 17th, 1775, he deserted his fair prospects of professional eminence in Salem, and offered to serve the cause of his country by enlisting as a private soldier in the army. The same fervor was exhibited in all his pursuits. He entered upon them zealously, and devoted his whole soul to their accomplishment. He allowed himself no rest day or night, till he was satisfied that nothing in his power to perform, remained undone. It was probably from the strong interest his pursuits excited, that he acquired in so eminent a degree the power of concentrating his faculties. To this power, joined to his extensive knowledge and observation, may be attributed the rapidity of his mental processes, the facility with which he arrived at his conclusions. Hence it was that he was able to perform so much in a given time as to astonish other men of even industrious habits.

The same susceptibility was conspicuous in his intercourse with his patients, and was the means of his acquiring their affection. He entered readily and warmly into their feelings. He affected no interest in their troubles that was not sincere. If they were in pain he knew what their sufferings were, and it would have been abhorrent to his nature to have treated them with indifference. In all the anxieties of those who were connected to the sufferers by the relations of domestic life, he warmly sympathized, for no one had felt them more deeply than he.

This sensibility was not unattended by its too usual accompaniment. He was liable, particularly in the latter part of his life, to a great depression of spirits. He allowed those sources of affliction, from which none are exempt, to make too deep an impression. Yet his disposition was naturally cheerful; he was always fond of social intercourse, and always ready to join in social amusements. And it was seldom that the presence of a friend could not for a time dispel the clouds that hung over his spirits. Still he suffered enough to make him at times almost out of love with life, and he more than once declared that he had no wish that his life should be long. But it was always in the full confidence of a better to succeed. The warmth

of his affections was shown in his notions of a future state, for he could not imagine a state of happiness in which he should be separated from those he loved here.

He was a christian from conviction, as well as feeling. He had examined for himself the evidences of our religion, and was satisfied of their conclusiveness. And the fruits of his belief were shown in a life spent in doing good, and in diffusing religious sentiments where he had influence. Although he visited many patients on Sunday morning, he devoted the rest of the day to religious duties : to attendance on public worship ; to reading on religious subjects ; and instructing his family in the great principles of christian doctrine. The foundation of this practice was laid by the instructions of an excellent and pious mother, whom he most zealously cherished while she lived, and deeply mourned on her death.

His eminence in society never elevated him in his own mind above the lowest about him : for he considered all as members of one family ; was at all times as ready to attend to the calls of the poor as of the rich, and his attentions to them were equally kind and soothing. To all, his heart felt sympathy, and he administered those consolations that contribute almost as much to the ease of the patient, as does the skill of the physician. His liberality was not confined to professional services : he cheerfully gave pecuniary aid to those whom he found in want ; and all enterprises of a public or charitable nature found in him a ready contributor both of money and time.

His profession as an anatomist gave him opportunities of enlarging and strengthening his views of the existence and character of a Supreme Being ; and he always took pleasure in pointing out in his lectures those fine contrivances which show that the human frame was formed on a deliberate plan by an intelligent, Omnipotent Being, and that that Being desired the happiness of his creatures.

His virtues were heightened by an unaffected modesty, which the place he held in the estimation of his fellow-citizens never diminished. With the qualities we have described, he could not fail to possess that true politeness which has its foundation in a benevolent heart.

The interest he early felt in the welfare of his country, continued through life ; and in times of political difficulty and excitement, when important measures were to be proposed, and it was desirable that they should be brought



forward with the countenance of those who had the strongest hold on the esteem and affections of their fellow citizens, he was often requested to preside in the public assemblies of the people, and he never shrunk from the responsibility.

In the winter of 1814-15 he was called upon to attend, in conjunction with the family physician, on Governor Brooks, then dangerously ill, at his residence in Medford. Notwithstanding the pressure of his business and the state of his health, which was then quite feeble, urged on by friendship for Governor Brooks and his sense of the value of his life to the community, he contrived to visit him once and sometimes twice every day, while his severe illness lasted. Governor Brooks's situation was such as to make it necessary to adopt some decisive remedy, and an application of tobacco was made, of which, as the success was uncertain, and it was the last resort, the operation was awaited by Dr. W. with intense anxiety. His delight was proportionable in finding it take a favorable turn. Governor Brooks recovered. About this time, on returning home one day towards evening, he found a letter from Foxborough, about twenty-five miles from Boston, stating that his brother, who resided there, had dislocated his shoulder three days before, and that the neighboring practitioners had not been able to reduce it. He immediately ordered a carriage to carry him there. On his family urging him, on account of his own ill health, to wait till morning and take some rest, he replied, "it would be like resting on a bed of coals," and set out without delay. As soon as he arrived there he commenced his operations. He made several unsuccessful attempts with the pullies. After trying an hour or two he desisted, and said he would try again in the morning. On retiring he expressed to his student who was with him, his great anxiety about his brother. He neither undressed nor slept that night, but spent it principally in walking about the room in great agitation. Before morning he caused the family to be roused to make another attempt. In this, after an hour or more, he succeeded. For a short time afterwards he was in great spirits; but, soon after getting into his sleigh to return home, seemed to sink from exhaustion. He however proceeded to Boston, and without resting resumed his visits to his patients. These exertions brought on an illness which hung about him, till in conjunction with his organic dis-

ease it produced an inflammation of the lungs, of which he died April 4th, 1815, at his house in School street, where he had resided about thirty years.

His death was universally and deeply lamented. The University of Cambridge and the Medical Society united in appointing his colleague, Dr. Jackson, to prepare a eulogy at the interment of his remains, and it was delivered in the Stone Chapel, the same place where, precisely thirty-nine years before that day, the eulogy had been delivered over those of his brother. A funeral sermon was preached at the church where the deceased had attended public worship, by the eloquent Dr. McKean; and the Hon. Josiah Bartlett delivered a funeral oration at the request of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Although he died at an age not advanced, he may be said to have lived long for society; for the lives of few men have contained so much useful labor.

His remains are deposited in a tomb erected for the purpose by his family, in the cemetery of St. Paul's Church, in Boston. In the same sepulchre rest the relics of his friend and brother, who was killed on Bunker Hill.

On this tomb is placed the following inscription, framed by a gentleman\* who was acquainted with his private as well as professional character.

H. J.

**JOHANNES WARREN,**

Bostoniensis,  
Temporibus suis illustris,  
Nec posteritati obliviscendus.

Bello civili semper rei publicæ deditus,  
Juventutem patriæ sacravit.

Medicus inter primos,  
Chirurgus facile princeps,  
Novangliæ  
Primam medicinæ scholam,  
Ipsius laboribus fundatam,  
Per xxx. annos  
Doctrina sustulit,  
Eloquentia illuminavit.

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\* George Ticknor, Esq.

Quid verum, quid honestum,  
Quid scientiæ, quid bono publico profuturum  
    Exemplo docuit,  
    Vitæ studio promovit.  
    Erga deum pietate,  
Erga homines benevolentia sincere imbutus,  
    Summam severitatem  
    Summæ humanitati junxit.  
    Universitatis Harvardianæ Professor,  
    Societatis Philanthropicæ Præses,  
Societatis Medicæ Massachusettensis Præses,  
    Nullus illi defuit honos.  
    Vita peracta non deest omnium luctus.  
Natus die xxvii. Julii, A. D. MDCCLIII.  
Obiit die iv. Aprilis, A. D. MDCCCXV.

*Errata.*—On page 44, Vol. I. line 18 from bottom, for *Amy*, *and*, read Amyand. Page 242, Vol. II. line 12 from top, for *bring*, read bury.

To the list of surviving surgeons in the revolutionary army, in the note, page 255, Vol. II. the name of James Thacher should be added.

In the article *Benjamin Rush* some repetitions have occurred. They were occasioned by the circumstance that we had availed ourselves of an anonymous memoir of Dr. Rush, published in the American Medical and Philosophical Register, and also of the Discourse by Dr. Hosack. Our memoir was also enlarged by an extract from the Introductory Lecture lately delivered in Rutgers Medical College by Professor Francis. We were not aware at the time that the anonymous Life was from the pen of that Professor, which fact sufficiently accounts for the free use that Dr. F. has made of his first production.

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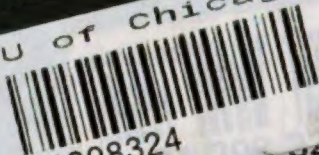
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